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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 2, 2020 10:06 AM  
**To:** BLAINE-CMD CNTR DAILY REPORT  
**Subject:** Daily Report  
**Attachments:** CC Daily Report for 01012020.docx

01/01/2020

Command Center Operations for the Blaine AOR 01/02/2020:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)



**OFO – SIT Room Reports:**

None

**Significant Events/Visits:**

None

**BP – SIT Room Reports: Situational Awareness Only:**

None

**HSI/AMO Seizure/Significant Event: Situational Awareness Only:**

None

**S/A/S Reports:**

**Blaine:** 3  
**Oroville:** 1  
**Metaline Falls:** 2

**IOIL Reports:**

**Bellingham:** 1  
**Boundary:** 1

**NEXUS/FAST Lane Violations:**

**Blaine:** 2

**Agriculture EAN:**

None

**Electronic Media Reports:**

(b) (7)(E)

- (b) (7)(E) - **Basic Phone Examination:** A citizen of Iran arrived t (b) (7)(E) to acquire immigration benefits for Canada (b) (7)(E). At the conclusion of the negative inspection, the subject was given an Electronic Media Inspection Tear Sheet. The subject was processed as a WD2 and returned to Canada.
- (b) (7)(E) - **Basic Phone Examination:** A citizen of Iran arrived t (b) (7)(E) to acquire immigration benefits for Canada (b) (7)(E). At the conclusion of the negative inspection, the subject was given an Electronic Media Inspection Tear Sheet. The subject was processed as a WD2 and returned to Canada.
- (b) (7)(E) - **Basic Phone Examination:** A citizen of Iran arrived t (b) (7)(E) to acquire immigration benefits for Canada (b) (7)(E). At the conclusion of the negative inspection, the subject was given an Electronic Media Inspection Tear Sheet. The subject was processed as a WD2 and returned to Canada.

(b) (7) (E)

(b) (7) (E)

**Admissibility Adverse Action:**

Expedited Removal:	1
Notice to Appear:	0
Visa Waiver Refusal:	0
WD in lieu of NTA:	2
Deferred Inspection:	0
Parole:	0
Crewmember Refused Landing:	0
WD in lieu of ER:	2
WD2:	7

**Reviewed by: Chief** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 10:02 AM  
**To:** BLAINE-CMD CNTR DAILY REPORT  
**Subject:** Daily Report  
**Attachments:** CC Daily Report for 01022020.docx

01/02/2020

Command Center Operations for the Blaine AOR 01/03/2020:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)



**OFO – SIT Room Reports:**

**Blaine:**

- 20-3004-010220000011-Technology Disruption-Cargo NII Rapiscan Eagle Mobile M25 Outage

**Significant Events/Visits:**

None



**BP – SIT Room Reports: Situational Awareness Only:**

None

**HSI/AMO Seizure/Significant Event: Situational Awareness Only:**

None

**S/A/S Reports:**

**Oroville:** 1

**IOIL Reports:**

**Blaine:** 4

**Anacortes:** 1

**Oroville:** 2

**NEXUS/FAST Lane Violations:**

**Blaine:** 8

**Point Roberts:** 2

**Agriculture EAN:**

None

**Electronic Media Reports:**

**Blaine:**

- **(b) (7)(E)** - **Basic Phone Examination:** A German citizen and native of Iran was referred for further inspection. **(b) (7)(E)**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At the conclusion of the basic phone exam, subject's phone was returned to him in the same condition **(b) (7)(E)** the subject was determined to be inadmissible under the Visa Waiver Program and was refused per 7A1 and returned to Canada.

**(b) (7) (E)**

(b) (7) (E)

**Admissibility Adverse Action:**

Expedited Removal:	1
Notice to Appear:	0
Visa Waiver Refusal:	4
WD in lieu of NTA:	4
Deferred Inspection:	0
Parole:	0
Crewmember Refused Landing:	0
WD in lieu of ER:	2
WD2:	6

**Reviewed by: Chief** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 1:01 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T; BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** TFO Mandatory Reporting

All,

Due to the new Iran issue the DFO is placing certain mandatory requirements upon the TFO's.

1. You will report all activities you are involved in with your TFO teams in regards to the Iran threat to the Field Office TAU for dissemination to upper Field Office management.
2. You will report what your TFO group is currently doing in regards to this Iran threat.
3. All encounters with nexus to Iran will be thoroughly vetted and reported to the Field Office TAU.

All encounters until further notice will be reported to the Field Office TAU to be disseminated to the BSC.

The Field Office TAU is going into 24 hour operations for a sustained period of time.

Call me if you need clarification of your tasking's.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Re: BSC Update

Thank you

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 3, 2020, at 10:50 AM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sir,

Current update:

1. Reserve SRT members are being activated in Sweetgrass and Pembina to perform security details.
2. Several SRT team members are leaving this Sunday for Team Qualifications for a week. SRT HQ confirmed that the Team Qualifications takes precedence.
3. TFO's have been advised to report all nexus to Iran encounters issues to the TAU.
4. (b) (7)(E).
5. Have volunteers from BSC and Trade to help staff the TAU for 24 hour operations.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)5

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**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 2:58 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH M; THOMAS, ZACHARY C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SCHMELZ, JASON W;  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T; SAAR, DIRK J. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Summary of Heightened Vigilance Efforts  
**Attachments:** Blaine AOR Heightened Vigilance.doc

See attached.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** BROWN, LISA BETH M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 10:28 AM  
**To:** THOMAS, ZACHARY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SCHMELZ, JASON W  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; SAAR, DIRK J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Summary of Heightened Vigilance Efforts

Good morning,

Thank you for meeting on short notice this morning. While we have your general comments from today's preliminary call, you undoubtedly have more information and/or details in place to support OFO's heightened vigilance efforts.

The DFO has her first call at 1200 PST today with senior OFO management. Will you please have a high-level summary/bullets about your AOR's efforts sent to Acting BS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) by 1115 PST so that they can be collated into a single Field Office report for her call?

Thank you. Please let me know if you need assistance. We have several Field Office members on standby ready to assist if possible.

Lisa Beth M. Brown  
Assistant Director, Trade  
Seattle Field Office  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, WA  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
SECURITY  
9901 Pacific Highway  
Blaine, WA 98230

**U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection**

DATE: January 3, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Adele Fasano  
Director Field Operations Seattle

FROM: Kenneth Williams  
Area Port Director Blaine

SUBJECT: Heightened Vigilance

In light of the U.S. airstrike against Iranian IRGC-QF General Qassem Soleimani, the Area Port of Blaine has deployed the following heightened awareness activities.

- Discussion with Port Directors
  - All encounters with individuals from areas of national concern must be referred into secondary and TTRT contacted to assist with inspection
  - Assign officers to man all ports 24X7
  - The Port Directors have been provided a briefing as to the gravity of the aforementioned situation
  - Instructed to engage their law enforcement counterparts
  - Be prepared to initiate outbound operations in the event of a targeted attack on U.S. soil
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- APD/PD conducted face-to-face musters with all Blaine Area Port personnel instructing them to remain vigilant on duty as well as off duty.
  - Wear body armor
  - Wear cover jacket when traveling to and from work
  - Report negative contact with individuals posing a threat to CBP personnel or property to the APD through [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E).
  - Request assistance immediately when dealing with unruly passenge [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)  
[REDACTED]
  - Increase trunk checks and NII scans
  - Conduct routine patrols around the FIS
  - Maintain the highest levels of professionalism, impartiality, and courtesy to the traveling public.

- TTRT
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- Local collaboration with other federal, state, and local law enforcement entities.
  - The Area Port of Blaine has received a commitment from Border Patrol in both the Blaine and Spokane Sectors to provide support in staffing the ports that are not open 24X7
  - HSI has committed to assisting in manning the Lynden POE between midnight and 0800 when BP is not available
  - HSI ASAC has stated that his agents will respond to the ports to interview anyone that CBP OFO deems a risk to national security
  - JTTF TFO will provide any Intelligence updates upon receipt
  - BEST TFO will assist in port operations
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - FPS contacted and asked if they will be responding to the POE to assist in our heightened awareness posture. The FPS Officer indicated that he was unaware of any heighten awareness posture, but will consult with his Watch Commander and get back to us.
- Ports that are not open 24X7 will be manned 24 hours.
  - The following ports will be manned during the respectively periods:
    - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - Total COPRA hours required 112 hours

More to follow.

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 7:48 PM  
**To:** BLAINE-CMD CNTR WAIT TIMES  
**Subject:** \*\*SECOND\*\*BCC Wait Time Report for 01/03/2020  
**Attachments:** Wait Time Report 01 03 2020.docx

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office of Field Operations Blaine Area Port  
Blaine, WA  
January 3, 2020**

**Blaine, WA: Excessive Wait Times**

**Summary:**

On January 3, 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the Blaine Ports of Entry (POEs) of Peace Arch and Pacific Highway reported wait times of 100 minutes and 90 minutes respectively, due to post holiday travelers. Heightened awareness due to increased tension with Iran may be contributing to high wait times. Traffic and mitigation strategies are in place.

Updates to follow.

**Details:**

The Peace Arch POE has excessive passenger vehicular wait time of 100 minutes at 1600 hours (PST). Two lanes being utilized as a Dedicated Commuter Lane (NEXUS), and five out of eight lanes for regular traffic.

The Pacific Highway POE has excessive passenger vehicular wait time of 90 minutes at 1600 hours (PST). Two lanes being utilized as a Dedicated Commuter Lane (NEXUS), and two out of four lanes for regular traffic.

**Mitigation:**

CBP Supervisors are maintaining wait time estimates by surveying drivers and through liaison with the Blaine Command Center (BCC).

All COMPEX operations have been suspended.

The number of hood/trunk inspections at primary is being reduced and vehicles are referred to secondary for further inspection when warranted.

CBSA has been notified of CBP Wait Times through information provided by the BCC.

Local radio stations have been advised.

Updates to follow.

**Timeline (Peace Arch):**

1600 hours- – The wait times reported were five regular lanes of 100 minutes and two NEXUS lanes of 5 minutes.

**Timeline (Pacific Highway):**

1600 hours- – The wait times reported were two regular lanes of 90 minutes and two NEXUS lanes of 5 minutes.

**Submitted by:** CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Reviewed by:** Chie (b) (6), (b) (7) / W (b) (6), (b) (7)

**Date / Time:** January 3, 2020, 1600 hours (PST)



Thank you,

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**Blaine Command Center (BCC)  
Blaine, WA**

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) – office**

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) – fax**

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**



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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 8:16 PM  
**To:** BLAINE-CMD CNTR WAIT TIMES  
**Subject:** \*\*THIRD\*\*Wait Time Report 01 03 2020.docx  
**Attachments:** Wait Time Report 01 03 2020.docx

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office of Field Operations Blaine Area Port  
Blaine, WA  
January 3, 2020**

**Blaine, WA: Excessive Wait Times**

**Summary:**

On January 3, 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the Blaine Ports of Entry (POEs) of Peace Arch and Pacific Highway reported wait times of 90 minutes, due to post holiday travelers. Heightened awareness due to increased tension with Iran, may be contributing to higher wait times. Traffic and mitigation strategies are in place.

Updates to follow.

**Details:**

The Peace Arch POE has excessive passenger vehicular wait time of 90 minutes at 1700 hours (PST). Two lanes being utilized as a Dedicated Commuter Lane (NEXUS), and four out of eight lanes for regular traffic.

The Pacific Highway POE has excessive passenger vehicular wait time of 90 minutes at 1700 hours (PST). Two lanes being utilized as a Dedicated Commuter Lane (NEXUS), and two out of four lanes for regular traffic.

**Mitigation:**

CBP Supervisors are maintaining wait time estimates by surveying drivers and through liaison with the Blaine Command Center (BCC).

All COMPEX operations have been suspended.

The number of hood/trunk inspections at primary is being reduced and vehicles are referred to secondary for further inspection when warranted.

CBSA has been notified of CBP Wait Times through information provided by the BCC. Local radio stations have been advised.

Updates to follow.

**Timeline (Peace Arch):**

1700 hours- The wait times reported were four regular lanes of 90 minutes and two NEXUS lanes of 5 minutes.

**Timeline (Pacific Highway):**

1700 hours- The wait times reported were two regular lanes of 90 minutes and two NEXUS lanes of 5 minutes.

**Submitted by:** CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Reviewed by:** Chie (b) (6), (b) (7) / W (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Date / Time:** January 3, 2020, 1700 hours (PST)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 9:37 PM  
**To:** BLAINE-CMD CNTR WAIT TIMES  
**Subject:** \*\*FINAL\*\*Wait Time Report 01 03 .2020  
**Attachments:** Wait Time Report 01 03 2020.docx

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office of Field Operations Blaine Area Port  
Blaine, WA  
January 3, 2020**

**Blaine, WA: Excessive Wait Times**

**Summary:**

On January 3, 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at the Blaine Ports of Entry (POEs) of Peace Arch and Pacific Highway reported wait times of 60 minutes, due to post holiday travelers. Heightened awareness due to increased tension with Iran, may be contributing to higher wait times.

**Details:**

The Peace Arch POE has excessive passenger vehicular wait time of 60 minutes at 1800 hours (PST). Two lanes being utilized as a Dedicated Commuter Lane (NEXUS), and four out of eight lanes for regular traffic.

The Pacific Highway POE has excessive passenger vehicular wait time of 60 minutes at 1800 hours (PST). Two lanes being utilized as a Dedicated Commuter Lane (NEXUS), and two out of four lanes for regular traffic.

**Mitigation:**

CBP Supervisors are maintaining wait time estimates by surveying drivers and through liaison with the Blaine Command Center (BCC).

**Timeline (Peace Arch):**

1800 hours- The wait times reported were four regular lanes of 60 minutes and two NEXUS lanes of 5 minutes.

**Timeline (Pacific Highway):**

1800 hours- The wait times reported were two regular lanes of 60 minutes and two NEXUS lanes of 5 minutes.

**Submitted by:** CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Reviewed by:** Chie (b) (6), (b) (7) / W (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Date / Time:** January 3, 2020, 1800 hours (PST)

---

**From:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 4, 2020 9:29 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request- Operational Actions/Significant Encounters- Reporting  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg; ATT00001.htm; 20200103 Iran (with AMO and INA).docx; ATT00002.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)  
**Date:** January 3, 2020 at 6:32:41 PM PST  
**To:** "BROPHY, ROSE M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "CAMPBELL, CARL S"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "DELAO, JENNIFER B (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"DENNING, MICHAEL S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "DURST, CASEY OWEN (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >, "FLORES, PETE ROMERO"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "FORET, VERNON T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HARRIGER, KEVIN C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >,  
"HOFFMAN, TODD A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HOWE, RANDY J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"HUMPHREY, BRIAN J (DFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "LAMM, CLINT (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MANCHA, HECTOR"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"MARTEL, CARLOS C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MILLER, TROY A"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MURDOCK, JUDSON W (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"OVERACKER, THOMAS F (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "Owen, Todd C (EAC OFO)"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "PERRY, CHRISTOPHER M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"RAMIREZ, GUADALUPE H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "ROBLES, ALFONSO"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "SABATINO, DIANE J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >, "SUTTON-BURKE, LAFONDA D"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "WAGNER, JOHN P (DEAC OFO)"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "WHITE, ROBERT E (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "YANDO,  
DONALD F (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "CAMPBELL, CARL S"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HOWE, RANDY J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >, OFO-FIELD  
LIAISO (b) (7)(E)  
**Subject:** Request- Operational Actions/Significant Encounters- Reporting

Good Evening DFOs,

Operations Support is required to provide C1's office with updates to the operational posture and/or actions taken by your AOR and significant encounters/incidents related to the U.S. airstrike on Iranian Military Leader. Please provide significant action(s) or encounter(s) by 10:00 am (EST) ***daily*** to Field Liaison Division. Although negative responses are not required to Operations Support, FLD requires a response from each Field Office. The attached document is the running template that will be used for consolidation and submission to Operations Support.

Thank you,

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

Supervisory CBP Officer

Field Liaison Division

Office of Field Operations

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 2.3A-17

Washington, DC 20229

Office: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

Mobile **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

E-Mail: **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

CBP0000400

CBP0000401



CBP0000402

CBP0000403

CBP000393

CBP0000394

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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 4, 2020 1:05 PM  
**To:** REYNOSO, ELIZABETH A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*UPDATED REQUIREMENT\*\* Operational Actions/Significant Encounters - Reporting  
**Attachments:** 20200103 Iran (with AMO and INA).docx; ATT00001.htm

FYI

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 4, 2020 at 10:02:50 AM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: \*\*UPDATED REQUIREMENT\*\* Operational Actions/Significant Encounters - Reporting

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 4, 2020 at 8:30:34 AM PST  
**To:** "BROPHY, ROSE M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "CAMPBELL, CARL S"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "DELAO, JENNIFER B (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"DENNING, MICHAEL S (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "DURST, CASEY OWE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FLORES, PETE ROMERO"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "FORET, VERNON T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HARRIGER, KEVIN C"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HOFFMAN, TODD A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HOWE, RANDY J"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HUMPHREY, BRIAN J (DFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "LAMM, CLINT (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"MANCHA, HECTOR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "MARTEL, CARLOS C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MURDOCK, JUDSON W"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "OVERACKER, THOMAS F"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "Owen, Todd C (EAC OFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"PERRY, CHRISTOPHER M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "RAMIREZ, GUADALUPE H"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "ROBLES, ALFONSO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"SABATINO, DIANE J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"SUTTON-BURKE, LAFONDA D (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
"WAGNER, JOHN P (DEAC OFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >, "WHITE,  
ROBERT E (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "YANDO, DONALD F (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "CAMPBELL, CARL S"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HOWE, RANDY J" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
OFO-  
FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)  
Cc: "Owen, Todd C (EAC OFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "WAGNER, JOHN P (DEAC OFO)"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HOWE, RANDY J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "FORET,  
VERNON T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject: \*\*UPDATED REQUIREMENT\*\* Operational Actions/Significant Encounters - Reporting**

Good morning DFOs,

As previously relayed, Operations Support is required to provide C1's office with updates to the operational posture and/or actions taken by your AOR and significant encounters/incidents related to the U.S. airstrike on the Iranian Military Leader.

Additionally, C1 has requested a daily report on all refusals with linkages to Iran and asked to **ensure the ports are contactin (b) (7)(E) on each of these such encounters; annotating whether or n (b) (7)(E) chooses to respond.** The information on refusals with linkages to Iran will be handled by the NTC; however, it is imperative the ports relay the information regarding the encounter, responses, and particulars to the NTC for awareness and completeness in their reporting.

Please continue to provide significant action(s) or encounter(s) by 10:00 am (EST) **daily** to Field Liaison Division. Although negative responses are not required to Operations Support, FLD requires a response from each Field Office. The attached document is the running template that will be used for consolidation and submission to Operations Support.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Director, Business Operations and Communications  
Operations Directorate  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, 3.4D-15  
Washington D.C. 20229  
Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Email: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP000404

CBP0000405



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 4, 2020 10:24 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: For the daily reports

Great thank you

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 4, 2020, at 7:21 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

This what I got for tomorrows report. This work for Field Liaison?

<image002.jpg>

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection**  
**Seattle Field Office**

**Operational Actions/Significant Encounters**  
**Reporting for January 3, 2020**

Seattle Field Office current operational posture and/or actions taken within our AOR and/or reporting of significant encounters/incidents related to the U.S. airstrike on Iranian Military Leader. Daily reporting of significant action(s) or encounter(s) will be completed by 10:00 am (EST) to Field Liaison Division.

**Significant Encounters:**

**Total Vetting for the 24 hour period:**

**Land Border Environment:**

- The Management Team will muster all staff on the enhanced measures and heightened vigilance (including out ports) level.
- Muster mandatory reporting requirements prior to admitting and / or refusing a traveler of interest.
- (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- Taskforce Officers will communicate with Area Port Management on relevant intelligence and host agencies heightened alert status if applicable.

- TTRT, PAU and Intel offices will liaise directly with the Seattle Field Office TAU on subjects of concern to ensure timely vetting.

(b) (7)(E)

**Airport Environment:**

- The Management Team will muster all staff on the enhanced measures and heightened vigilance (including out ports) level.
- Muster mandatory reporting requirements prior to admitting and / or refusing a traveler of interest.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- Taskforce Officers will communicate with Area Port Management on relevant intelligence and host agencies heightened alert status if applicable.
- TTRT, PAU and Intel offices will liaise directly with the Seattle Field Office TAU on subjects of concern to ensure timely vetting.

**Seaport Environment:**

- CBP staff located at the Tacoma and Seattle Seaport have been mustered on the enhanced security posture and to remain vigilant on and off-duty.
- CBP located at JAHOC have been coordinating with the US Coast Guard and local Law Enforcement to increase patrols and visibility is critical infrastructure areas.
- The Northwest Enforcement Team will continue to increase port patrols and its visibility on the terminals.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Warning: This email and any attachments are UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized DHS official. No portion of this email should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form. If you are not an intended recipient or believe you have received this communication in error, please do not print, copy, retransmit, disseminate, or otherwise use this information. Please inform the sender that you received this message in error and delete the message from your system.**

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 4, 2020 11:53 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Subject:** Fwd: Clarification of guidance

FYI

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 4, 2020 at 8:53:01 PM PST  
**To:** "FASANO, ADELE [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" >  
**Subject:** Fwd: Clarification of guidance

Boss - I just had a good phone conversation with APD Williams regards the triaging of Iranian citizens and nationals. He is fully engaged in the operation and has been monitoring the situation. He has a good path forward and will convey this to his senior staff. He will add additional TTRT tomorrow and I offered Field Office staff to assist if needed. I will have a proposal to you to hopefully reduce some of the burden on the ports not having to fully vet frequent travelers, USC's and LPRs that don't have any derogatory alerts

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 4, 2020 at 6:57:36 PM PST  
**To:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED]  
"FASANO, ADELE [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" "BROWN, LISA BETH M"  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)", "SAAR, DIRK J. [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Clarification of guidance

APD Williams

The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow of this specific operation. Due to the magnitude of the DFO's request for final vetting and approval from the Field Office the Area Ports are to streamline their submissions to the Field Office TAU. The three other Area Ports have complied with the guidance, however there are significant shortfalls from the Area Port of Blaine.

Unlike the other three area ports, Blaine is not providing required information:

1. They are referring plate numbers to the Field Office TAU (not the subjects name) to be pulled from (b) (7)(E) so TAU can conduct Blaine's inspection.
2. The Blaine CBPO's are completing the (b) (7)(E) check sheet and forwarding them to the Field Office TAU to conduct Blaine's inspection.
3. The Blaine CBPO's are not giving a synopsis of their inspection. The Field Office TAU does not know where the subject is going, what the subject is doing or who they are going to meet.
4. The Blaine CBPO's are not annotating that any CBP system queries have been conducted or if there are any positive or negative results from the queries.
5. Blaine is not producing a inspectional product of these subjects for the Field Office TAU to complete a final vetting analysis.

The other Area Ports are conducting full inspections of these subjects, conducting vetting and providing a detailed product to the Field Office TAU o (b) (7)(E) .

The Field Office TAU is mandated to support all Area Ports within the Seattle Field Office for the final vetting.

Again thank you for all the support and hard work your officers, supervisors and managers have been providing. I fully understand your ports are overwhelmed with normal and holiday traffic, however until we receive further guidance this will be the normal state of operations.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:14 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** Re: Reminder - Operational Actions/Significant Encounters - Reporting

Awesome Mike. Thanks.

I just wanted to make sure that we were not missing anything.

Kenneth Williams  
Area Port Director  
Blaine, WA

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 4, 2020, at 10:13 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] wrote:

For now we are going to take care of reporting requirements

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 4, 2020, at 10:07 PM, WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] wrote:

Mike,

Have you sent the guidance on daily reporting yet? I have not seen it.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
*Office:* [REDACTED]  
*Cellular:* [REDACTED]  
*Fax:* [REDACTED]

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 4, 2020 6:44 AM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE <ADELE.FASANO@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] BROWN, LISA BETH M  
[REDACTED]; SAAR, DIRK J [REDACTED]; THOMAS, ZACHARY C  
[REDACTED]; WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED]

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SCHMELZ, JASON W

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Reminder - Operational Actions/Significant Encounters - Reporting

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 4, 2020, at 6:21 AM, FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

BS will issue guidance on new daily reporting requirement.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)  
**Date:** January 4, 2020 at 3:59:33 AM PST  
**To:** "BROPHY, ROSE M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >, "CAMPBELL, CARL S"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "DELAO, JENNIFER B"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "DENNING, MICHAEL S"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "DRAGANAC, JOSEPH"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "DURST, CASEY OWEN"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FASANO, ADELE"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FLORES, PETE ROMERO"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FORET, VERNON T"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HARRIGER, KEVIN C"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HOFFMAN, TODD A"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HOWE, RANDY J"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HUMPHREY, BRIAN J (DFO)"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "LAMM, CLINT (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
 "MANCHA, HECTOR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MARTEL, CARLOS C"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MILLER, TROY A"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "MURDOCK, JUDSON W"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "OVERACKER, THOMAS F"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "Owen, Todd C (EAC OFO)"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "PERRY, CHRISTOPHER M"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "RAMIREZ, GUADALUPE H"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "ROBLES, ALFONSO"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "SABATINO, DIANE J"  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)





---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:53 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Stand by

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 9:46 AM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sir,

Would you like me to reach back to Blaine for the below requested information?

Sincerely,

SP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Seattle Field Office

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 9:18:24 AM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Sir, thank you for the initial response (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is out of pocket for a couple hours.

I received additional info on this inquiry that there was an Iranian music concert in Vancouver last night. Allegedly, 40 (AP tip says as many as 150) US-Iran citizens were detained up to 8 hours at the POE upon return. A lawyer contacted by one allegedly detained border crosser issued a press release, but I cannot find that release nor any news reporting at this time on the alleged detentions.

Can you send me whatever report you have on the processing of USCs or dual US-Iran citizens at WA POEs last night? Can you also send me OFO's guidance/muster on processing US-Iran citizens, how many USCs were processed through secondary related to Iran, and average BWTs for WA POE border crossers.

This has significant potential to become an international comms issue, particularly the public's perception following S1's statement that the USG received no credible stateside threats, and news reports

challenging the claims of an imminent Iran attack on US interests. We can be expected to enhance security measures following Iran's vow to retaliate against US interests and placing additional inspectional scrutiny on travelers with ties to Iran should be considered a reasonable measure. But we do need to address the allegations that CBP detained 40-150 US/US-Iran citizens for up to 8 hours after the Vancouver concert.

Thank you. (b) (6), (b) (7)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) : Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Follow me on Twitter [@CBPMidAtlantic](#)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:53

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Not true, however yesterday we had a little back log in processing these people..... she doesn't need to know this. But to answer her question the answer is no. We don't have anyone in detention. Use the talking points as we are not going to discuss active processing or specific numbers

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From** (b) (6)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:31

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); cbpmidiarelations

**Subject:** Fwd: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Hello

We are looking to confirm that approximately 40 Iranian US citizens are being detained at the US/Canadian border in Washington state. We would like to know the reason for these detentions and whether any Canadians have also been detained. We would also like to know the number of people detained.

(b) (6)

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**

Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**

Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:53 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** RE: Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

Looks good to me. I just hope the Ports don't feel they are off the hook and go back to what they were doing before.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office  
Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:50 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow o (b) (7)(E). Due to the magnitude of the vetting and approval process from the Field Office to the Area Ports, the following guidelines will now take effect to streamline thi (b) (7)(E).

**1. All United States Citizens (USCs), United States (US) Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) meeting the parameters of Operation Support:**

- a. If the port does not find any derogatory information, a Port Manager GS-14 or above may approve their release.
- b. If the port finds derogatory information, the person will be sent to th (b) (7)(E) (when applicable) to th (b) (7)(E) for approval by the Assistant Director of Field Operations (ADFO) of Border Security and Facilitation (BSF) or the Director of Field Operations (DFO).

(b) (7) (E)

4. If there are any significant delays at the ports in response to Operation Support, **ALL USCAs and US LPRs will take priority.**

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:20 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Heads up, I talked to Field Liaison about this on behalf of the XD. I briefed him on our process at the ports to vet nationals of Iran (born in Iran). Also other mitigating factors last night.

Up to a 2 hour wait to cross

Limited staffing

Long lines in secondary inspections

Our longest waits were 4 hours, which includes waiting the secondary lines, interview process and TAU/NTC checks

Numerous CTR/TTRT interviews being conducted

If individuals had any derogatory information our TAU and NTC were involved

Report says 40-150 were detained from the concert. We may have had a dozen or so from the concert but they were accompanied by people who were not a target.

No USC or US LPR were refused entry, nor do we have any of them in custody

Also explain new procedures for port vetting

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 9:18 AM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

Sir, thank you for the initial response (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is out of pocket for a couple hours.

I received additional info on this inquiry that there was an Iranian music concert in Vancouver last night. Allegedly, 40 (AP tip says as many as 150) US-Iran citizens were detained up to 8 hours at the POE upon return. A lawyer contacted by one allegedly detained border crosser issued a press release, but I cannot find that release nor any news reporting at this time on the alleged detentions.

Can you send me whatever report you have on the processing of USCs or dual US-Iran citizens at WA POEs last night? Can you also send me OFO's guidance/muster on processing US-Iran citizens, how many USCs were processed through secondary related to Iran, and average BWTs for WA POE border crossers.

This has significant potential to become an international comms issue, particularly the public's perception following S1's statement that the USG received no credible stateside threats, and news reports challenging the claims of an imminent Iran attack on US interests. We can be expected to enhance security measures following Iran's vow to retaliate against US interests and placing additional inspectional scrutiny on travelers with ties to Iran should be considered a reasonable measure. But we do need to address the allegations that CBP detained 40-150 US/US-Iran citizens for up to 8 hours after the Vancouver concert.

Thank you. (b) (6), (b) (7)(F)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) : Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Follow me on Twitter [@CBPMidAtlantic](#)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:53

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Not true, however yesterday we had a little back log in processing these people..... she doesn't need to know this. But to answer her question the answer is no. We don't have anyone in detention. Use the talking points as we are not going to discuss active processing or specific numbers

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From** (b) (6)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:31

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); cbpmidiarelations

**Subject:** Fwd: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Hello

We are looking to confirm that approximately 40 Iranian US citizens are being detained at the US/Canadian border in Washington state. We would like to know the reason for these detentions and whether any Canadians have also been detained. We would also like to know the number of people detained.

(b) (6)

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**  
Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**  
Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:31 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

I will send out now. Thanks

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 9:49 AM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow o (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E). Due to the magnitude of the vetting and approval process from the Field Office to the Area Ports, the following guidelines will now take effect to streamline thi (b) (7)(E)

**1. All United States Citizens (USCs), United States (US) Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) meeting the parameters of Operation Support:**

a. If the port does not find any derogatory information, a Port Manager GS-14 or above may approve their release.

b. If the port finds derogatory information, the person will be sent to th (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E) in (when applicable) to th (b) (7)(E) for approval by the Assistant Director of Field Operations (ADFO) of Border Security and Facilitation (BSF) or the Director of Field Operations (DFO).

(b) (7) (E)

(b) (7) (E)

4. If there are any significant delays at the ports in response to Operation Support, **ALL USCAs and US LPRs will take priority.**

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:44 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Lessons Learne (b) (7)(E)  
**Attachments:** (b) (7)(E) Lessons Learned.docx; ATT00001.htm

4

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 10:59:57 AM PST  
**To:** "FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" >  
**Cc:** "BROWN, LISA BETH M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Subject:** Lessons Learne (b) (7)(E)

DFO - Our main goal is to ensure the ports have the resources to do their job to address this threat and to provide you accurate information to make informed decisions. I may have lapsed on that as I was unaware of the long delays at certain ports and should have taken action sooner.

See attached document for our initial assessment

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:35 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Lessons Learne (b) (7)(E)  
**Attachments:** (b) (7)(E) Lessons Learned.docx

Dear Bosses,

I apologize in advance I was learning how to operate while we were conducting this operation. I made a lot of mistakes and errors and hope to learn from them. Here is our "hot wash." As soon as this quells I hope to pursue finishing the SOP and getting all the feedback and approval. I envision a better operation next time. Thank you for your continued support. My team, however did not fail me, neither did the TTRT officers and some key port officers that were in the same boat we were. Everyone put in 110% effort, the stress was high but I am proud of the team and how they performed and did not hesitate when called upon to give up their weekend.

Luckily we are all still married or still in our relationships....I will also be thanking my team's families for their support. I am jealous of the ones that really were upset their partner was absent from the weekend family activities while my spouse offered no resistance... = ) hmmm.... No truly, my family is always very supportive and patriotic and I am thankful for that. It is good to know that I can trust my team and my managers when I need them. You were super supportive throughout and I appreciate it a lot!

**Seattle Field Office  
Tactical Analytical Unit, Seattle, Washington  
January 5, 2020**

**Action Required:** Informational

**Issue** (b) (7)(E) Best Practices

**Executive Summary:** The current threat posed by the tensions between the Iranian government and the United States over recent attacks in Iraq has necessitated the enforcement of enhanced screening of potential targets of interest that may be used to conduct retaliatory attacks on the Homeland. (b) (7)(E) provided the Tactical Analytical Unit (TAU) the opportunity to set up an around the clock operational support for the frontline. The following information are some lessons learned that could be employed to streamline information and improve processes for this existing operation and future operations.

**Best Practices and Lesson Learned:**

- TAU must have a plan and procedure in place for these types of contingent operations. A "Team of Teams" approach was the most effective approach to running this operation as follows:
  - The Area Ports set up a command structure and a way to log and organize the targets that enter the port of entry.

(b) (7)(E)

(b) (7) (E)

- TAU should muster a standardized approach or workflow for these types of Operations.
  - **Communication errors by all parties contributed to significant delays in passenger processing.**

(b) (7) (E)

- TAU needs to know who the points of contacts (POCs) will be on shift.
- TAU should work with the port to ensure who will be sending an email to TAU and how TAU will communicate and acknowledge receipt of target to cut down on the emails back and forth.
- TAU should issue guidance that reminds officers to refrain from sending one-on-one emails as this led to emails being missed. The officer conducting the inspection should be the only one communicating with TAU with regards to the target.
  - **Confusion arose when further questions were asked by TAU and the secondary officer asked a third officer to ask the question from the subject and respond to TAU. This was exacerbated by the confusing subject lines of the emails that were not consistent.**
- TAU will prioritize United States Citizens (USCs) and United States Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs). TAU will then prioritize Canadian citizens followed by other immigration classifications.
- TAU will conduct in person musters to explain the threats and target frontline and secondary officers to develop a cadre of experts that will be able to generate a Team of Teams concept where they can make fact based determinations based on threats.
- A “Hot Wash” should follow any Special Operations to find ways to improve for the next threat.

- Barriers to communication between TAU, TTRT, and the frontline should be removed on a daily basis to allow the units to be used to the collaboration.
  - This operation was the first time that TAU was allowed to communicate directly with port personnel for real-time support. The more officers working together on a consistent basis, the more trust is developed, operations will be run more cohesively and efficiently. (b) (7)(E)
- A Team of Teams approach where small, expert teams working in collaboration are more effective than having one or two specialized teams waiting for top-down instruction (b) (7)(E)
- A specialized team needs to be able to make decisions and determinations.

(b) (7)(E)

- (b) (7)(E). TAU will be flexible in scheduling these briefs, will make them short, easy to understand and digestible.
- TAU should aid in keeping a well informed and well prepared frontline to face the challenges today.
- Loca (b) (7)(E) access to run checks would have also aided in this special operation.
  - (b) (7)(E)
  - The Northern Border Coordination Center was closed this weekend and could not suppo (b) (7)(E)
  - The Field Intelligence Group was on annual leave due to the holiday season and were unable to support this weekend.
  - (b) (7)(E)
- TAU will continue to reach out to partners to build up relationships in hopes that in the future, other agencies can support these types of operations.
  - (b) (7)(E)
  - An ops center would make operations like this a norm, versus something that is new and becomes a double challenge in learning how to operate while addressing the threat.

**Conclusion:** TAU is still writing the TAU Tactical Intelligence Standard Operating Procedure for the Seattle field Office. These recommendations are a starting point for further input from managers, TTRT, port personnel, partner agencies. Feedback will be included in the SOP and guidelines will be developed for conducting future operations to make sure each one is better than the next.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Supervisor Tactical Analytical Unit  
Program Manager Border Security and Facilitation  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office  
9901 Pacific Highway  
Blaine, WA 98230

**Des** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*This message contains information intended only for the addressee named above. If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately.*

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 2:04 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Please remove that paragraph.

Also we were experiencing a higher than normal travelers returning from the Xmas/New Year holiday season.

Everything thing else is fine.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 10:54 A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

Mr. Freeman,

Please review. I will probably remove the paragraph that discusses numbers, unless you think it is relevant and they are readily available.

Interest is growing. I probably have about six inquiries and Jaypal's office called me.

#### Statement

Late Saturday night, U.S. Customs and Border Protection experienced extraordinary volume of travelers returning from a Perisan musical artist's concert in Vancouver, Canada that caused extensive delays in processing cross-border traffic. CBP implemented measures to augment primary inspections booths. This volume and mitigation measures led to delays in completing routine secondary examinations. CBP apologizes for any inconvenience this unanticipated volume caused travelers.

#### On background

- Between (time) and (time) when Vancouver concert goers returned to the U.S., CBP processed the admissions of XX USC, XX LPRs and XX FNs. Historically, CBP process a combined XX during that period. The unanticipated volume overwhelmed CBP off-peak processing capability.



- Since this was a Persian musical artist's concert, a significant percentage of cross-border travelers were of Persian descent. Because a significant percentage of travelers were of Persian descent, the percentages of secondary examinations were also of Persian descent.
- CBP noted no immigration discrepancies during routine secondary examinations.
- The longest time any cross-border traveler spent at the CBP Port of Entry was about four hours. The length of that secondary examination could be attributed to the volume.

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:06 PM  
**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm back now. I'll await word from the field office and put something together.

I would say if they had a lot of Iranians show up at once, they weren't detained per se, rather all of them were sent to secondary and it likely took longer than normal to process them.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:18:23 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Sir, thank you for the initial response [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is out of pocket for a couple hours.

I received additional info on this inquiry that there was an Iranian music concert in Vancouver last night. Allegedly, 40 (AP tip says as many as 150) US-Iran citizens were detained up to 8 hours at the POE upon return. A lawyer contacted by one allegedly detained border crosser issued a press release, but I cannot find that release nor any news reporting at this time on the alleged detentions.

Can you send me whatever report you have on the processing of USCs or dual US-Iran citizens at WA POEs last night? Can you also send me OFO's guidance/muster on processing US-Iran citizens, how many USCs were processed through secondary related to Iran, and average BWTs for WA POE border crossers.

This has significant potential to become an international comms issue, particularly the public's perception following S1's statement that the USG received no credible stateside threats, and news reports challenging the claims of an imminent Iran attack on US interests. We can be expected to enhance security measures following Iran's vow to retaliate against

US interests and placing additional inspectional scrutiny on travelers with ties to Iran should be considered a reasonable measure. But we do need to address the allegations that CBP detained 40-150 US/US-Iran citizens for up to 8 hours after the Vancouver concert.

Thank you. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) : Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Follow me on Twitter [@CBPMidAtlantic](#)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:53

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Not true, however yesterday we had a little back log in processing these people..... she doesn't need to know this. But to answer her question the answer is no. We don't have anyone in detention. Use the talking points as we are not going to discuss active processing or specific numbers

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From** (b) (6)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:31

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); cbpmidiarelations

**Subject:** Fwd: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Hello

We are looking to confirm that approximately 40 Iranian US citizens are being detained at the US/Canadian border in Washington state. We would like to know the reason for these detentions and whether any Canadians have also been detained. We would also like to know the number of people detained.

(b) (6)

--

(b) (6)

**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**

Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)

Send me confidential tips on Signal

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**

Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Definitely. Thank you.

Below is the news release from CAIR

**BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained U.S. Border**  
POSTED BY [IBRAHIM HOOPER](#) 1575SC ON JANUARY 05, 2020

(SEATTLE, WA, 1/5/20) – The Washington state chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-WA) is assisting more than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans of all ages who were detained at length and questioned at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Wash.

Many more were reportedly refused entry to the United States due to a lack of capacity for Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to detain them.

Other Iranian-Americans are about to cross the Peace Arch Border as they return back to their homes in the United States from an Iranian pop concert that was taking place on Saturday in Vancouver, Canada.

Those detained reported that their passports were confiscated and they were questioned about their political views and allegiances. CBP officials contacted at the Blaine Port of Entry provided no comment or reasons for the detentions.

[NOTE: CAIR published "Know Your Rights" materials online in English, Arabic, Somali, Urdu, Farsi, Bengali, and Bosnian. The multi-language civil rights materials may be printed out for personal use or for distribution at local events. **GO TO:** <https://www.cair.com/KnowYourRights> ]

Crystal, a 24-year-old American citizen and medical student was allegedly detained and interrogated for more than 10 hours with her family at the Peace Arch Border Crossing before being released early this morning. "The vast majority of people being held last night were American citizens," said Crystal. "We kept asking why we were being detained and asked questions that had nothing to do with our reason for traveling and was told 'I'm sorry this is just the wrong time for you guys.'"

A source at CBP reported that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has issued a national order to CBP to "report" and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious or "adversarial," regardless of citizenship status. CBP at the Peace Arch Border Crossing did not confirm or deny this report.

"These reports are extremely troubling and potentially constitute illegal detentions of United States citizens," said **Masih Fouladi, executive director of CAIR-WA**. "We are working to verify reports of a broad nationwide directive to detain Iranian-Americans at ports of entry so that we can provide community members with accurate travel guidance. We will continue to update the community and other civil rights organizations as we obtain more information."

CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims.

**END**

**CONTACT:** CAIR-WA Executive Director Masih Fouladi, 714-801-0349; CAIR-WA Communications Coordinator Jessica Schreindl, [jschreindl@cair.com](mailto:jschreindl@cair.com), 206.367.4081

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 11:06 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Also try to down play this as much as possible

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 10:54 AM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Mr. Freeman,

Please review. I will probably remove the paragraph that discusses numbers, unless you think it is relevant and they are readily available.

Interest is growing. I probably have about six inquiries and Jaypal's office called me.

#### Statement

Late Saturday night, U.S. Customs and Border Protection experienced extraordinary volume of travelers returning from a Persian musical artist's concert in Vancouver, Canada, as well as a high volume of holiday travelers returning from Canada that caused extensive delays in processing cross-border traffic. CBP implemented measures to augment primary inspections booths. This volume and mitigation measures led to delays in completing routine secondary examinations. CBP apologizes for any inconvenience this unanticipated volume caused travelers.

On background

- Since this was a Persian musical artist's concert, a significant percentage of cross-border travelers were of Persian descent. Because a significant percentage of travelers were of Persian descent, the percentages of secondary examinations were also of Persian descent.
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---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:06 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm back now. I'll await word from the field office and put something together.

I would say if they had a lot of Iranians show up at once, they weren't detained per se, rather all of them were sent to secondary and it likely took longer than normal to process them.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:18:23 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** FW: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Sir, thank you for the initial response (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is out of pocket for a couple hours.

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Thank you. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) : Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Follow me on Twitter [@CBPMidAtlantic](#)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:53

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

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Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:31  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); cbpmediarelations  
**Subject:** Fwd: CBC NEWS REQUEST

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(b) (6)

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**  
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--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**  
Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 3:02 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Subject:** Potential Media Interest - Iranian Concert Blaine

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Supervisor Tactical Analytical Unit

Program Manager Border Security and Facilitation

U. S. Customs and Border Protection

Seattle Field Office

9901 Pacific Highway

Blaine, WA 98230

**Des** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:**





Thread

(b) (6)

More than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans are being detained by CBP at the Peace Arch coming home from a pop concert in Vancouver - including U.S. Citizens. This is insane!

 **BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained U.S....**  
 cair.com

11:51 AM · 1/5/20 · [Twitter Web App](#)

1 Retweet 1 Like



(b) (6)

Tweet your reply



# BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

POSTED BY IBRAHIM HOOPER 1575SC ON JANUARY 05, 2020



Council on American-Islamic Relations

## اگر در ملاطفت پلیس به سرانجام آمد چه کار باید کرد.

اگر برنده هستید و پاسی شما متوقف کند، ممکن است به معنی این است که پاسی شما متوقف شده است. اگر پاسی شما متوقف شده است، ممکن است به معنی این است که پاسی شما متوقف شده است. اگر پاسی شما متوقف شده است، ممکن است به معنی این است که پاسی شما متوقف شده است.

## اگر دستگیر شدید:

اگر دستگیر شوید، پلیس حق بازرسی بدنی شما را ندارد. اگر دستگیر شوید، پلیس حق بازرسی بدنی شما را ندارد. اگر دستگیر شوید، پلیس حق بازرسی بدنی شما را ندارد. اگر دستگیر شوید، پلیس حق بازرسی بدنی شما را ندارد.

## حقوق شما در هنگام مواجهه با مأمور قانون

اگر بازرسی می‌شود یا بازداشت کنید یا از آنجا فرار کنید، ممکن است به معنی این است که پاسی شما متوقف شده است. اگر پاسی شما متوقف شده است، ممکن است به معنی این است که پاسی شما متوقف شده است.

## اگر پلیس سریع شما آمد، چه کاری باید انجام دهید؟

اگر در خانه هستید، بیرون بروید و قبل از صحبت با آنها در را پشت سر خود ببندید. اگر در محل کار هستید، آنها را به جای خود از جمله کار شما دور کنید. اگر به شما زنگ زده به یک محل ساخت برود.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

(SEATTLE, WA, 1/5/20) - The Washington state chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-WA) is assisting more than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans of all ages who were detained at length and questioned at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Wash.

Many more were reportedly refused entry to the United States due to a lack of capacity for Customs and Border

Many more were reportedly refused entry to the United States due to a lack of capacity for Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to detain them.

Other Iranian-Americans are about to cross the Peace Arch Border as they return back to their homes in the United States from an Iranian pop concert that was taking place on Saturday in Vancouver, Canada.

Those detained reported that their passports were confiscated and they were questioned about their political views and allegiances. CBP officials contacted at the Blaine Port of Entry provided no comment or reasons for the detentions.

[NOTE: CAIR published “Know Your Rights” materials online in English, Arabic, Somali, Urdu, Farsi, Bengali, and Bosnian. The multi-language civil rights materials may be printed out for personal use or for distribution at local events. **GO TO:**

<https://www.cair.com/KnowYourRights> ]

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 3:47 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** FW: AS OF 5 JAN 20 1230hrs Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

Looks good to me, do you want me to send it out?

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Warning: This email and any attachments are UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized DHS official. No portion of this email should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form. If you are not an intended recipient or believe you have received this communication in error, please do not print, copy, retransmit, disseminate, or otherwise use this information. Please inform the sender that you received this message in error and delete the message from your system.**

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:43 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** NEW: AS OF 5 JAN 20 1230hrs Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

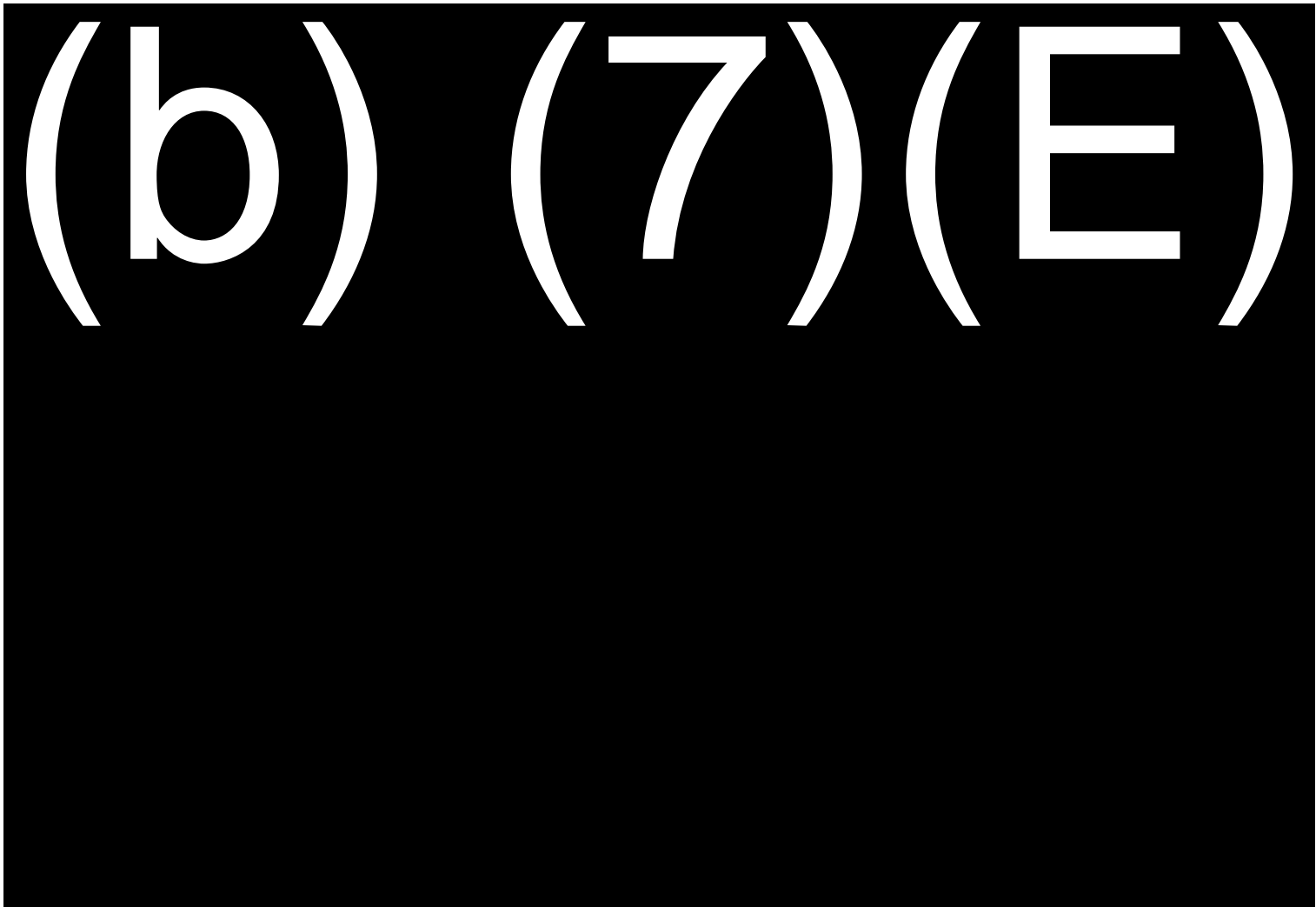
The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow o (b) (7)(E). Due to the magnitude of the vetting and approval process from the Field Office to the Area Ports, the following guidelines will now take effect to streamline thi (b) (7)(E).

**For this operation, CBP will not target by nationality. The concern is the Iranian government using its Islamic Revolutionary Guard, their military and special forces or Hezbollah operatives using recruits as sympathizers, financiers, or operatives to wage asymmetric warfare or stage an attack in the United States (b) (7)(E)**

**Due to mandatory military conscription in Iran, many persons may have served in the Iranian military. The following guidance should provide further clarification on what frontline officers should be looking for.**

- 1. All United States Citizens (USCs), United States (US) Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) meeting the parameters of Operation Support:**

- a. If the port does not find any derogatory information, a Port Manager GS-14 or above may approve their release.
- b. If the port finds derogatory information, the person will be sent to th (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED] (when applicable) to th (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED] for approval by the Assistant Director of Field Operations (ADFO) of Border Security and Facilitation (BSF) or the Director of Field Operations (DFO).



4. If there are any significant delays at the ports in response to Operation Support, ALL USC's and US LPRs will take priority. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: If there are more than 10 persons in a CBP lobby waiting as part of Operation Support, please notify the Border Security Coordinator, ADFO, and DFO promptly.**
5. **Any persons waiting for vetting for more than two (2) hours (other than waiting for NTC disposition) will be promptly reported to the Seattle Field Office Border Security Coordinator, ADFO, and DFO.**

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:07 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Fwd: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

She wants me to take care of it..... see I told you

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FASANO, ADELE [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 1:57:12 PM PST  
**To:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Cc:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Subject:** **Re: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine**

No local contact with press or congressional offices. Mike Freeman will review with OFO and OCA

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2020, at 1:05 PM, WILLIAMS, KENNET [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

DFO,

Is it your preference that this matter be forwarded to Congressional Affairs or would you like for me to take this call? If you want me to take this call, who would you like to be on the call?

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:56 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing to inquire about reports our office received this afternoon regarding US citizens and legal permanent residents with Iranian heritage or nationality who were detained and questioned this weekend.

Our office received reports that DHS issued a national order to CBP to report and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious, regardless of citizenship status. Further, we received reports that individuals were questioned about their political beliefs, allegiances, and other questions.

We would like to speak with you tomorrow about this. I will plan to give you a call at 12:30pm Eastern / 9:30am Pacific. If that time doesn't work, we can accommodate later in the afternoon, but need to give Senator Murray an update no later than COB tomorrow. Please let us know **(b) (6)**, our Senior National Security Advisor (copied here), may join the call as well.

Thank you in advance,

**(b) (6)**

**(b) (6)**

Legislative Counsel

Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray

Direct **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

Cell **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

---

**From:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:09 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** Re: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Those are the ones Mike sent me to make sure we were aware.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 2:07:38 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

And this one

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 2:00:02 PM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Cc:** "FASANO, ADELE [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Subject:** FW: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

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Here's another that just came in from Congressman Rick Larsen's office.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:51 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border



H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and Tony-

I'm trying to get ahead of questions on the below. Can we connect ASAP? My cell number is (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
I'm around all day.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

## BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian- Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(SEATTLE, WA, 1/5/20) – The Washington state chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-WA) is assisting more than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans of all ages who were detained at length and questioned at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Wash.

Many more were reportedly refused entry to the United States due to a lack of capacity for Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to detain them.

Other Iranian-Americans are about to cross the Peace Arch Border as they return back to their homes in the United States from an Iranian pop concert that was taking place on Saturday in Vancouver, Canada.

Those detained reported that their passports were confiscated and they were questioned about their political views and allegiances. CBP officials contacted at the Blaine Port of Entry provided no comment or reasons for the detentions.

[NOTE: CAIR published “Know Your Rights” materials online in English, Arabic, Somali, Urdu, Farsi, Bengali, and Bosnian. The multi-language civil rights materials may be printed out for personal use or for distribution at local events. **GO TO:** <https://www.cair.com/KnowYourRights> ]

Crystal, a 24-year-old American citizen and medical student was allegedly detained and interrogated for more than 10 hours with her family at the Peace Arch Border Crossing before being released early this morning. “The vast majority of people being held last night were American citizens,” said Crystal. “We kept asking why we were being detained and asked questions that had nothing to do with our reason for traveling and was told ‘I’m sorry this is just the wrong time for you guys.’”

A source at CBP reported that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

has issued a national order to CBP to “report” and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious or “adversarial,” regardless of citizenship status. CBP at the Peace Arch Border Crossing did not confirm or deny this report.

“These reports are extremely troubling and potentially constitute illegal detentions of United States citizens,” said **Masih Fouladi, executive director of CAIR-WA**. “We are working to verify reports of a broad nationwide directive to detain Iranian-Americans at ports of entry so that we can provide community members with accurate travel guidance. We will continue to update the community and other civil rights organizations as we obtain more information.”

CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims.

La misión de CAIR es proteger las libertades civiles, mejorar la comprensión del Islam, promover la justicia, y

empoderar a los musulmanes en los  
Estados Unidos.

**END**

[https://www.cair.com/breaking\\_cair\\_wa\\_assisting\\_iranian\\_american\\_detained\\_us\\_border](https://www.cair.com/breaking_cair_wa_assisting_iranian_american_detained_us_border)

**(b) (6)**

Legislative Director  
Rep. Rick Larsen, WA-02

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:12 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Boss - do you want me to coordinate with the XD and OCA today? Or wait until tomorrow. The XD knows the background and Field Liaison just has staff personal working today, don't know if OCA has a duty person today

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 2:00:02 PM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Mr. Freeman,

Here's another that just came in from Congressman Rick Larsen's office.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:51 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken an (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm trying to get ahead of questions on the below. Can we connect ASAP? My cell number is (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), I'm around all day.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:15 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Fwd: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Forgot to send to you

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 10:19:57 AM PST  
**To:** "FASANO, ADELE" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Heads up, I talked to Field Liaison about this on behalf of the XD. I briefed him on our process at the ports to vet nationals of Iran (born in Iran). Also other mitigating factors last night.

Up to a 2 hour wait to cross

Limited staffing

Long lines in secondary inspections

Our longest waits were 4 hours, which includes waiting the secondary lines, interview process and TAU/NTC checks

Numerous CTR/TTRT interviews being conducted

If individuals had any derogatory information our TAU and NTC were involved

Report says 40-150 were detained from the concert. We may have had a dozen or so from the concert but they were accompanied by people who were not a target.

No USC or US LPR were refused entry, nor do we have any of them in custody

Also explain new procedures for port vetting

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 9:18 AM [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sir, thank you for the initial response [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is out of pocket for a couple hours.

I received additional info on this inquiry that there was an Iranian music concert in Vancouver last night. Allegedly, 40 (AP tip says as many as 150) US-Iran citizens were detained up to 8 hours at the POE upon return. A lawyer contacted by one allegedly detained border crosser issued a press release, but I cannot find that release nor any news reporting at this time on the alleged detentions.

Can you send me whatever report you have on the processing of USCs or dual US-Iran citizens at WA POEs last night? Can you also send me OFO's guidance/muster on processing US-Iran citizens, how many USCs were processed through secondary related to Iran, and average BWTs for WA POE border crossers.

This has significant potential to become an international comms issue, particularly the public's perception following S1's statement that the USG received no credible stateside threats, and news reports challenging the claims of an imminent Iran attack on US interests. We can be expected to enhance security measures following Iran's vow to retaliate against US interests and placing additional inspectional scrutiny on travelers with ties to Iran should be considered a reasonable measure. But we do need to address the allegations that CBP detained 40-150 US/US-Iran citizens for up to 8 hours after the Vancouver concert.

Thank you. [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Office [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) : Mobile [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Follow me on Twitter [@CBPMidAtlantic](#)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:53

**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Not true, however yesterday we had a little back log in processing these people..... she doesn't need to know this. But to answer her question the answer is no. We don't have anyone in detention. Use the talking points as we are not going to discuss active processing or specific numbers

Michael Freeman

Assistant Director, Field Operations

Seattle Field Office

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020, 07:31

**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); cbpmidiarelations

**Subject:** Fwd: CBC NEWS REQUEST

Hello

We are looking to confirm that approximately 40 Iranian US citizens are being detained at the US/Canadian border in Washington state. We would like to know the reason for these detentions and whether any Canadians have also been detained. We would also like to know the number of people detained.

(b) (6)

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**  
Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal

--

(b) (6)  
**Senior Reporter**  
**CBC Investigates**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **Desk**  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **iPhone**  
Follow me on Twitter (b) (6)  
Send me confidential tips on Signal



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:38 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Fwd: Seattle Field Office encounters on 1/4

FYI

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 2:36:04 PM PST  
**To:** "HOWE, RANDY J" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] "CONROY, DONALD E" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] "FORET, VERNON T"  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] "FASANO, ADELE" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject: Re: Seattle Field Office encounters on 1/4**

Here's where ended up:

#### STATEMENT

Social media posts that CBP is detaining Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S. because of their country of origin are false. Reports that DHS/CBP has issued a related directive are also false.

#### ON BACKGROUND

Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel. Processing times are the result of the current circumstances, including staffing levels, volume of traffic, and threat posture.

At the Blaine POE, wait times increased to an average of two hours [on Saturday evening](#), although some travelers experienced wait times of up to four hours due to increased volume and reduced staff during the holiday season. Wait times [Sunday morning](#) were about 40 minutes for passenger vehicles.

CBP does not discriminate based on religion, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

On Jan 5, 2020, at 2:15 PM, HOWE, RANDY [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

Randy J. Howe  
Executive Director, Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Office)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)

On Jan 5, 2020, at 14:05 [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] wrote:

<Seattle Field Office encounters on 1\_4>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:02 PM  
**To:** HOWE, RANDY J  
**Subject:** Fwd: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

XD Howe - DFO Fasano would like me to coordinate a respond with OFO and OCA regarding the two congressional inquiries sent to the Blaine Area Port Director. Please advise If you want me to reach out directly to the congressional POCs, refer to OCA or someone else. If you want me to reach out do you want me to work around the OCA press release recently sent to us as talking points?

For reference

Friday's stats

	(b) (7)(E)
Blaine	(b) (7)(E)
Sumas	(b) (7)(E)
Pembina	(b) (7)(E)
Portal	(b) (7)(E)
Sweetgrass	(b) (7)(E)
Totals Jan 04	(b) (7)(E)

Saturday's stats

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 1:57:12 PM PST  
**To:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

No local contact with press or congressional offices. Mike Freeman will review with OFO and OCA

Sent from my iPhone

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DFO,

Is it your preference that this matter be forwarded to Congressional Affairs or would you like for me to take this call? If you want me to take this call, who would you like to be on the call?

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*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
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[REDACTED]  
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We would like to speak with you tomorrow about this. I will plan to give you a call at 12:30pm Eastern / 9:30am Pacific. If that time doesn't work, we can accommodate later in the afternoon, but need to give Senator Murray an update no later than COB tomorrow. Please let us know [REDACTED] (b) (6), our Senior National Security Advisor (copied here), may join the call as well.

Thank you in advance,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

(b) (6)  
Legislative Counsel  
Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray  
Direct (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 2:00:02 PM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** "FASANO, ADELE" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: **BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border**

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*Cellular:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Fax:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:51 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

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I'm around all day.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**BREAKING: CAIR-WA**  
**Assisting Iranian-**

# Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(SEATTLE, WA, 1/5/20) – The Washington state chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-WA) is assisting more than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans of all ages who were detained at length and questioned at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Wash.

Many more were reportedly refused entry to the United States due to a lack of capacity for Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to detain them.

Other Iranian-Americans are about to cross the Peace Arch Border as they return back to their homes in the United States from an Iranian pop concert that was taking place on Saturday in Vancouver, Canada.

Those detained reported that their passports were confiscated and they were questioned about their political views and allegiances. CBP officials contacted at the Blaine Port of Entry provided no comment or reasons for the detentions.

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Crystal, a 24-year-old American citizen and medical student was allegedly detained and interrogated for more than 10 hours with her family at the Peace Arch Border Crossing before being released early this morning. “The vast majority of people being held last night were American citizens,” said Crystal. “We kept asking why we were being detained and asked questions that had nothing to do with our reason for traveling and was told ‘I’m sorry this is just the wrong time for you guys.’”

A source at CBP reported that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has issued a national order to CBP to “report” and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious or “adversarial,” regardless of citizenship status. CBP at the Peace Arch Border Crossing did not confirm or deny this report.

“These reports are extremely troubling and potentially constitute illegal detentions of United States citizens,” said **Masih Fouladi, executive director of CAIR-WA**. “We are working to verify reports of a broad nationwide directive to detain Iranian-Americans at ports of entry so that we can provide community members with accurate travel guidance. We will continue to update the community and other civil rights organizations as we obtain more information.”

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La misión de CAIR es proteger las libertades civiles, mejorar la comprensión del Islam, promover la justicia, y empoderar a los musulmanes en los Estados Unidos.

**END**

**[https://www.cair.com/breaking\\_cair\\_wa\\_assisting\\_iranian\\_american\\_detained\\_us\\_border](https://www.cair.com/breaking_cair_wa_assisting_iranian_american_detained_us_border)**

**(b) (6)**  
Legislative Director  
Rep. Rick Larsen, WA-02



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:16 PM  
**To:** HOWE, RANDY J  
**Subject:** Fwd: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

XD Howe - DFO Fasano would like me to coordinate a respond with OFO and OCA regarding the two congressional inquiries sent to the Blaine Area Port Director. Please advise If you want me to reach out directly to the congressional POCs, refer to OCA or someone else within Field Liaison. If you want me to reach out do you want me to work around the OCA press release recently sent to us as talking points? Please advise.

Thank you

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FASANO, ADELE [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 1:57:12 PM PST  
**To:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Cc:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

No local contact with press or congressional offices. Mike Freeman will review with OFO and OCA

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2020, at 1:05 PM, WILLIAMS, KENNET [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

DFO,

Is it your preference that this matter be forwarded to Congressional Affairs or would you like for me to take this call? If you want me to take this call, who would you like to be on the call?

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6) >  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:56 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc [REDACTED] (b) (6)

**Subject:** Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing to inquire about reports our office received this afternoon regarding US citizens and legal permanent residents with Iranian heritage or nationality who were detained and questioned this weekend.

Our office received reports that DHS issued a national order to CBP to report and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious, regardless of citizenship status. Further, we received reports that individuals were questioned about their political beliefs, allegiances, and other questions.

We would like to speak with you tomorrow about this. I will plan to give you a call at 12:30pm Eastern / 9:30am Pacific. If that time doesn't work, we can accommodate later in the afternoon, but need to give Senator Murray an update no later than COB tomorrow. Please let us know [REDACTED] (b) (6), our Senior National Security Advisor (copied here), may join the call as well.

Thank you in advance,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)  
Legislative Counsel  
Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray  
Direct [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:21 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Fwd: DHS Directive?

FYI

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "HOWE, RANDY J [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 3:19:10 PM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)", "FASANO, ADELE"  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Subject:** Fwd: DHS Directive?

Info. Let's see if we need more information

Randy J. Howe  
Executive Director, Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Office)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 18:17:27 EST  
**To:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "Owen, Todd C  
(EAC OFO) [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "HOWE, RANDY J"  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: DHS Directive?

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

We just issued the below, which I think mike provided OCA a copy of. Are you looking for information beyond?

STATEMENT

Social media posts that CBP is detaining Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S. because of their country of origin are false. Reports that DHS/CBP has issued a related directive are also false.

**ON BACKGROUND**

Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel.

Processing times are the result of the current circumstances, including staffing levels, volume of traffic, and threat posture.

At the Blaine POE, wait times increased to an average of two hours on Saturday evening, although some travelers experienced wait times of up to four hours due to increased volume and reduced staff during the holiday season. Current wait times Sunday morning were about 40 minutes for passenger vehicles.

CBP does not discriminate based on religion, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief of Staff, CBP

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:14:33 PM  
**To:** Owen, Todd C (EAC OFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HOWE, RANDY J  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** DHS Directive?

EAC, XD,

I'm receiving a lot of questions from the Hill regarding the Iranians at Blaine. They are claiming that they are hearing that DHS has issued a directive to CBP to stop and inspect all Iranians, whether or not they are now USC's and/or LPRs. Is this factual? How should we respond?

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 8:29 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Final numbers for yesterday

	(b) (7)(E)
Blaine	(b) (7)(E)
Lynden	
Metalline Falls	
Pembina	
Seattle	
Sumas	
Sweetgrass	
Total	

(b) (7)(E)

Port	Nationality
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada
Blaine, WA	Canada









Blaine, WA	US LPR IRAN
Blaine, WA	US LPR Iran
Blaine, WA	US LPR Iran and Germany
Lynden	Canada
Lynden	Canada
Lynden	Canada
Lynden	Canada
Lynden	Canada
Lynden	Canada
Lynden	Canadian
Lynden	United States
Lynden	United States
Lynden	United States
Lynden, WA	Canada
Lynden, WA	Canada
Lynden, WA	Canada
Lynden, WA	Canada
Lynden, WA	Canada
Lynedn	Canadian
Metaline Falls, WA	United States
Metaline Falls, WA	United States
Metaline Falls, WA	United States
Pembina	Canada
Pembina	Palestine
Seattle	Canada
Seattle	United States
Seattle	United States
Sumas	Canada
Sumas	Canada
Sumas	Canada
Sumas, WA	US LPR and Iran
Sweetgrass	Canada
Sweetgrass	Canada
Sweetgrass	Canada
Sweetgrass	Iran
Sweetgrass MT	Canada

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 8:49 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

Please have your staff add a column to your list adding start and release time in secondary and have it sent to me once completed

Thanks

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 5:44 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Any way to get how long in secondary?

I sent your list already

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" >  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 5:41:10 PM PST  
**To:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" >  
**Subject:** Re: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

What is the status of the data I requested. I also need estimates of time in secondary. I want to send to Howe this evening.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2020, at 3:13 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

Disregard sorry

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 3:12 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 1:57 PM, FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

No local contact with press or congressional offices. Mike Freeman will review with OFO and OCA

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2020, at 1:05 PM, WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

wrote:

DFO,

Is it your preference that this matter be forwarded to Congressional Affairs or would you like for me to take this call? If you want me to take this call, who would you like to be on the call?

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
*Office:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cellular:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Fax:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:56 PM

**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6)

**Subject:** Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing to inquire about reports our office received this afternoon regarding US citizens and legal permanent residents with Iranian heritage or nationality who were detained and questioned this weekend.

Our office received reports that DHS issued a national order to CBP to report and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious, regardless of citizenship status. Further, we received reports that individuals were questioned about their political beliefs, allegiances, and other questions.

We would like to speak with you tomorrow about this. I will plan to give you a call at 12:30pm Eastern / 9:30am Pacific. If that time doesn't work, we can accommodate later in the afternoon, but need to give Senator Murray an update no later than COB tomorrow. Please let us know (b) (6) [REDACTED] our Senior National Security Advisor (copied here), may join the call as well.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)  
Legislative Counsel  
Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray  
Direct (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 7:33 AM  
**To:** SCHMELZ, JASON (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner's Significant Incident Report for January 6, 2020

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **On Behalf Of** SITROOM  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 6:21 PM  
**To:** CBP SITROOM CBP LEADERSHI (b) (7)(E); CBP SITROOM- REPORTS - CBP MORNING  
REPOR (b) (7)(E)  
**Cc:** SITROOM (b) (7)(E)  
**Subject:** Commissioner's Significant Incident Report for January 6, 2020

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE**  
**For Official Use Only**  
**U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**  
**COMMISSIONER'S SITUATION ROOM DAILY REPORT**

This is the report for 1/6/2020

**Blaine**

Date of Incident: 1/4/2020

SIR Number: (b) (7)(E)

Location: Blaine, WA

Type of Incident: (b) (7)(E)

On January 4, 2020, CBP officers assigned to the Blaine, Washington POE encountered a citizen of both Iran and Canada, who is (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E). The subject was allowed to withdraw his admission and was returned to Canada. CBSA and the U.S. Border Patrol were notified.

**(b) (7) (E)**

(b) (7)(E)

**Capital Region Unit (CRU): 1/5/2020**

(b) (7)(E)

intrusion events: 0

(b) (7)(E)

events: 0

(b) (7)(E)

intrusion events: 0

P-56 A/B Events: 0

Presidential TFR: 0

P-40: 0

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV): 0

Speed Violations: 0

Mandatory Occurrence Reports (MOR) Filed: 1

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 7:55 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** FW: As requested



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | U.S. Customs & Border Protection  
**Customs and Border Protection | Office of Field Operations | Area Ports of Blaine**  
**Pacific Northwest Field Intelligence Group**  
9901 Pacific Highway | Blaine, WA 98230  
[Phone (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | [Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

WARNING: This document is designated UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE (U//LES). It may contain information that is exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5USC552). This document is to be controlled, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information, and is not to be released to the public or to personnel who do not have a valid need to know without prior approval from the CBP Office of Intelligence. **Third Agency rule applies. Do not disseminate further without authorization from the originating agency. The results in this communication are provided as investigative leads and are intended for criminal law enforcement and/or investigative purposes only. The communication and its contents are not to be included in any affidavits, court documents or other discoverable information. If you require CBP information for court purposes, please contact CBP Certified Records at**

(b) (7)(E)

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 4:15 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** As requested

(b) (7)(E) :

- Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E); however, subject disclose (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E). (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E).
- Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E), and created a total o (b) (7)(E) : Results are as follows:
  - One Visa Waiver Program refusal based on discovery of prior travel to Iran
  - (b) (7)(E)
  - One immigration refusal based on a discovery of a prior overstay
  - (b) (7)(E)
- Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E), and created a total o (b) (7)(E) : Results are as follows:

(b) (7)(E)

(b) (7) (E)



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | U.S. Customs & Border Protection  
**Customs and Border Protection | Office of Field Operations | Area Ports of Blaine**  
**Pacific Northwest Field Intelligence Group**  
9901 Pacific Highway | Blaine, WA 98230  
[Phone (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | [Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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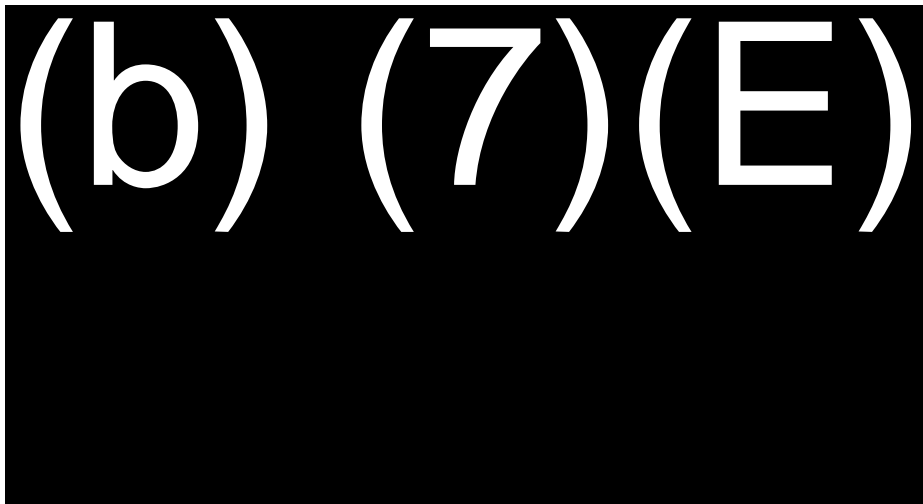
(b) (7)(E)



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 7:59 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Seattle Field Office Situational Daily Report

Have th (b) (7)(E) broken down into the sample chart below...



Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 4:57 AM

**To:** OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)

**C** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); BROWN, LISA BETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FASANO,

ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Seattle Field Office Situational Daily Report



**U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office**

**Operational Actions/Significant Encounters  
Reporting for January 5, 2020**

Seattle Field Office current operational posture and/or actions taken within our AOR and/or reporting of significant encounters/incidents related to the U.S. airstrike on Iranian Military Leader. Daily reporting of significant action(s) or encounter(s) will be completed by 10:00 am (EST) to Field Liaison Division.

**Significant Encounters:**

One Visa Waiver Program refusal based on discovery of prior travel to Iran

**Total Vetting for the 24 hour period:** [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) .

**Land Border Environment:**

- The Management Team will muster all staff on the enhanced measures and heightened vigilance (including out ports) level.
- Muster mandatory reporting requirements prior to admitting and / or refusing a traveler of interest.
- Targeting teams will develop local targets based on enhanced measure identifying travelers of interest both inbound and outbound.
- TTRT will increase staffing numbers to ensure adequate response capabilities during this heightened period of alert. During this time TTRT will increase inspections of inbound and outbound subjects with ties to Iran.
- Taskforce Officers will communicate with Area Port Management on relevant intelligence and host agencies heightened alert status if applicable.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- Port staff will be conducting security and perimeter checks of the FIS every hour

**Airport Environment:**

- The Management Team will muster all staff on the enhanced measures and heightened vigilance (including out ports) level.
- Muster mandatory reporting requirements prior to admitting and / or refusing a traveler of interest.
- Targeting teams will develop local targets based on enhanced measure identifying travelers of interest both inbound and outbound.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- Taskforce Officers will communicate with Area Port Management on relevant intelligence and host agencies heightened alert status if applicable.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

**Seaport Environment:**

- CBP staff located at the Tacoma and Seattle Seaport have been mustered on the enhanced security posture and to remain vigilant on and off-duty.
- CBP located at JAHOC have been coordinating with the US Coast Guard and local Law Enforcement to increase patrols and visibility is critical infrastructure areas.
- The Northwest Enforcement Team will continue to increase port patrols and its visibility on the terminals.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

• [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

**Intelligence and Vetting Environment:**

[REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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---

**From:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 12:20 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** FW: Fwd: Relevant Twitter Posts

FYSA- from yesterday

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:49 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Fwd: Relevant Twitter Posts

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

----- Original message -----

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Date:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] >  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Fwd: Relevant Twitter Posts

Michael and CBP colleagues: Can CBP confirm or dismiss this CAIR claim that Iranian-Americans are in fact to be given closer inspection and can be denied entry?

---  
Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

On January 5, 2020 at 4:33:13 PM EST [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
wrote:

My apology - the previous message was to be sent to my Chief of Operations at YVR.

Thank you.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Date: 1/5/20 1:28 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Cc: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Fwd: Relevant Twitter Posts

Are you able to discern if crossing delays are at the land border or the airport?

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (b) (6) >

Date: 1/5/20 1:28 PM (GMT-08:00)

To [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: Fwd: Relevant Twitter Posts

Thank you - keep us posted.

---  
Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

On January 5, 2020 at 3:43:54 PM EST [REDACTED] (b) (6) > wrote:

FYI, there are reports that there was a concert in BC that attracted many Iranian Americans who are now being delayed when returning to the U.S. CBC has picked up the report, but it is not big at this time, as far as I can tell. The link below cites an Amcit medical student who was detained 10 hours, but then allowed to return to the U.S.

I haven't reached CBP yet for context.

[REDACTED] (b) (6)  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Ottawa Press [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(Vancouver CBP Port Director) [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Vancouver DHS CBP)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Relevant Twitter Posts

**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 11:52:13 AM PST

**Subject:** Relevant Twitter Posts

**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6)

(b) (6) and all,

Story has a significant number of reposts. Please see posts below by WA state rep and CAIR, plus a link to CAIR's new release.

[https://www.cair.com/breaking\\_cair\\_wa\\_assisting\\_iranian\\_americans\\_detained\\_u\\_s\\_border](https://www.cair.com/breaking_cair_wa_assisting_iranian_americans_detained_u_s_border)



# CAIR National

@CAIRNational

Leading advocates fo

📍 Washington, D.C. 🔗

10.2K Following 50.6K



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**CAIR Nation**

**BREAKING:**

[cair.com/bre](http://cair.com/bre)

[#IranUsa](#) [#Ir](#)



CBP000681



Follow

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@CAIRNational

Leading advocates for justice and mutual understanding

Washington, D.C. [cair.com](http://cair.com) Joined October 2010

10.2K Following 50.6K Followers



Followed by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WorldUyghurCongress, NAFSA, and 3 others

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Likes

Pinned Tweet



**CAIR National** @CAIRNational · 1h

BREAKING: @cair\_wa Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained U.S. Border  
[cair.com/breaking\\_cair\\_...](http://cair.com/breaking_cair_...)  
#IranUsa #Iranattack #Iraq #Iran #Pompeo



1

115

79







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Washington, D.C. [cair.com](http://cair.com) Joined October 2010

10.2K Following 50.6K Followers



Followed by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WorldUyghurCongress, NAFSA, and 3 others

Tweets

Tweets & replies

Media

Likes

Pinned Tweet



**CAIR National** @CAIRNational · 1h

BREAKING: @cair\_wa Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained U.S. Border  
[cair.com/breaking\\_cair\\_...](http://cair.com/breaking_cair_...)  
#IranUsa #Iranattack #Iraq #Iran #Pompeo



1

115

79



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 12:30 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

Thank you, I haven't heard anything yet.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 9:27 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

FYI.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 9:27 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

(b) (6),

Due to the level of inquiries and media interest, CBP Office of Field Operations Seattle is working in concert with OFO HQ and the CBP Office of Congressional Affairs on a response.

Respectfully,

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*

**U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

**9901 Pacific Highway**

**Blaine, WA 98230**

**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6)

**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:56 PM

**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6)

**Subject:** Inquiry regarding reports of Iranian-American citizens detained in Blaine

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing to inquire about reports our office received this afternoon regarding US citizens and legal permanent residents with Iranian heritage or nationality who were detained and questioned this weekend.

Our office received reports that DHS issued a national order to CBP to report and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious, regardless of citizenship status. Further, we received reports that individuals were questioned about their political beliefs, allegiances, and other questions.

We would like to speak with you tomorrow about this. I will plan to give you a call at 12:30pm Eastern / 9:30am Pacific. If that time doesn't work, we can accommodate later in the afternoon, but need to give Senator Murray an update no later than COB tomorrow. Please let us know (b) (6), our Senior National Security Advisor (copied here), may join the call as well.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Legislative Counsel

Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray

Direct (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:07 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Stand by

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 10:05 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Sorry Mike, but this is on the same email string.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 10:02 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken-

Could I please get a name and phone number for whomever is running point? I'm familiar with the general inbox and your protocol.

(b) (6)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6)

Currently the POC is [ocainquiry.cbp.dhs.gov](https://ocainquiry.cbp.dhs.gov)

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
*Office:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cellular:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Fax:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 9:35 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken-

Understood. Could you please connect me with the best POC at the Seattle office to direct our questions too?

(b) (6)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 12:32 PM  
**To** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6)

Due to the level of inquiries and media interest, CBP Office of Field Operations Seattle is working in concert with OFO HQ and the CBP Office of Congressional Affairs on a response.

Respectfully,

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
*Office:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cellular:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Fax:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:51 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken an [REDACTED]

I'm trying to get ahead of questions on the below. Can we connect ASAP? My cell number is [REDACTED], I'm around all day.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

## BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian- Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(SEATTLE, WA, 1/5/20) – The Washington state chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-WA) is assisting more than 60 Iranians and Iranian-Americans of all ages who were detained at length and questioned at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Wash.

Many more were reportedly refused entry to the United States due to a lack of capacity for Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) to detain them.

Other Iranian-Americans are about to cross the Peace Arch Border as they return back to their homes in the United States from an Iranian pop concert that was taking place on Saturday in Vancouver, Canada.

Those detained reported that their passports were confiscated and they were questioned about their political views and allegiances. CBP officials contacted at the Blaine Port of Entry provided no comment or reasons for the detentions.

[NOTE: CAIR published “Know Your Rights” materials online in English, Arabic, Somali, Urdu, Farsi, Bengali, and Bosnian. The multi-language civil rights materials may be printed out for personal use or for distribution at local events. **GO TO:** <https://www.cair.com/KnowYourRights> ]

Crystal, a 24-year-old American citizen and medical student was allegedly detained and interrogated for more than 10 hours with her family at the Peace Arch Border Crossing before being released early this morning. “The vast majority of people being held last night were American citizens,” said Crystal. “We kept asking why we were being detained and asked questions that had nothing to do with our reason for traveling and was told ‘I’m sorry this is just the wrong time for you guys.’”

A source at CBP reported that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has issued a national order to CBP to

“report” and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious or “adversarial,” regardless of citizenship status. CBP at the Peace Arch Border Crossing did not confirm or deny this report.

“These reports are extremely troubling and potentially constitute illegal detentions of United States citizens,” said **Masih Fouladi, executive director of CAIR-WA**. “We are working to verify reports of a broad nationwide directive to detain Iranian-Americans at ports of entry so that we can provide community members with accurate travel guidance. We will continue to update the community and other civil rights organizations as we obtain more information.”

CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims.

La misión de CAIR es proteger las libertades civiles, mejorar la comprensión del Islam, promover la justicia, y empoderar a los musulmanes en los Estados Unidos.



**END**

**[https://www.cair.com/breaking\\_cair\\_wa\\_assisting\\_iranian\\_american\\_detained\\_us\\_border](https://www.cair.com/breaking_cair_wa_assisting_iranian_american_detained_us_border)**

**(b) (6)**  
Legislative Director  
Rep. Rick Larsen, WA-02

---

**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:43 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: DHS Directive?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) We have received call and emails

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border  
I'm trying to get ahead of questions on the below. Can we connect ASAP? My cell number is (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
I'm around all day.  
(b) (6)

(b) (6)  
Legislative Counsel  
Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray  
Direct (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6)  
Legislative Director  
Rep. Rick Larsen, WA-02

<https://www.cair.com/breaking-cair-wa-assisting-iranian-americans-detained-us-border>

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 5:14 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: DHS Directive?

OCA is meeting with the commissioner tomorrow morning on this.

Randy J. Howe  
Executive Director, Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)

On Jan 5, 2020, at 20:11, FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2020, at 3:19 PM, HOWE, RANDY J  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Info. Let's see if we need more information

Randy J. Howe  
Executive Director, Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 18:17:27 EST  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "Owen, Todd C  
(EAC OFO) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "HOWE,  
RANDY J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Subject: Re: DHS Directive?**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

We just issued the below, which I think mike provided OCA a copy of. Are you looking for information beyond?

#### STATEMENT

Social media posts that CBP is detaining Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S. because of their country of origin are false. Reports that DHS/CBP has issued a related directive are also false.

On Jan 5, 2020, at 2:15 PM, HOWE, RANDY [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

Randy J. Howe  
Executive Director, Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Office)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)

On Jan 5, 2020, at 14:05 [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] wrote:

<Seattle Field Office encounters on 1\_4>

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:35 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

Good afternoon DFO Freeman,

I hope you are well. DA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) asked me to reach out to you regarding Rep. DelBene's recent inquiries. Do you have a moment for a call?

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:33 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Please reach out to acting DFO Michael Freeman. He called me directly and said that either he or the port director would call the Congresswoman back. Please see if they've connected and if not, please facilitate with staff and provide the field with these questions. Thanks.

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:30:50 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I was able to speak to the staffer on this one. They have a few follow up questions for us, included below.

The Congresswoman is still interested in speaking directly with the Port Director (b) (6) is the district staffer that they have asked us to work with for that call. Happy to work with the PD to schedule, or pas (b) (6) information along to the field, whichever is preferred.

Follow up questions:

- 1) What was the criteria for those who were being held?
- 2) Were there any people that were turned away completely?

3) Is there anyone still in holding status in Blaine?

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Can you please reach out to them regarding the Member's call to the port director? Thanks.

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:52:37 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

I gave staff the statement you sent out yesterday. Other than that I have not received any communication back from Rep. DelBende's office.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:50 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Have you responded to the staff yet? The Field just called and said the Member herself has called and left 3 voicemails for the port director. I told the ADFO that I was fine with her or the Port Director speaking to her directly; however, I want to ensure that we close the loop with the staff. If you haven't already, please reach out to the staffer and also check about the Member calling the field.

Thanks.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:54 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

10-4, thanks.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:52 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

I have not gotten clearance on the enhanced statement, so, for now, you can use the cleared OPA statement from yesterday.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:28 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

We're getting inquiries into our OCA Inbox on the Iranian/Blaine issue as well. Can we use the statement you're working on to send to them as well?

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:15 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Subject: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please review the incoming below - no docs included. Let me know if/when I can log as closed or if you assign it out. Any assistance is appreciated. Thanks!

V/R,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Room 5.4-A | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (fa (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6)

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:45 PM

To: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Subject: Iranian Detention in Blaine

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),

I work in Congresswoman DelBene's office. She has asked for an update on the detention of Iranians earlier this morning in Blaine.

If you could provide us with an update it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6)

Senior Policy Advisor  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (WA-01)



---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:52 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Subject:** FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 11:49 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Subject:** FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

FYSA

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:43 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

This is the approved statement:

As previously stated, there is no national directive, memo, etc. from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their country of origin.

On Friday, CBP field leadership participated in a teleconference with Acting Commissioner Morgan and Deputy Commissioner Perez, where the field was asked to remain vigilant and increase their situational awareness given the evolving threat environment. On Saturday, January 4, 2020, Acting Secretary Wolf issued the National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin, which stated that DHS was operating under an enhanced posture due to the current threat environment. Again, there is no national directive from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their

country of origin. Field Leadership has discretion on how to enhance operational posture based upon the totality of circumstances, including AOR specific information.

When CBP leadership was made aware of the reports at Blaine, they quickly contacted the Blaine POE for additional information and discussion to ensure that secondary screening determinations are based upon a totality of circumstances. CBP leadership will continue to engage the field with respect to operational responses to the current threat to safeguard national security and protect the American people.

Please close the loop with CHS and Judiciary. Along with the others who have asked.

Thanks.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:16 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Any word on the enhanced statement yet?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Director (B&A) Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection | Department of Homeland Security  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) |  (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Can you please reach out to them regarding the Member's call to the port director? Thanks.

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:52:37 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

I gave staff the statement you sent out yesterday. Other than that I have not received any communication back from Rep. DelBende's office.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:50 PM  
To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

Have you responded to the staff yet? The Field just called and said the Member herself has called and left 3 voicemails for the port director. I told the ADFO that I was fine with he or the Port Director speaking to her directly; however, I want to ensure that we close the loop with the staff. If you haven't already, please reach out to the staffer and also check about the Member calling the field.

Thanks.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:54 AM  
To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

10-4, thanks.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Lin (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:52 AM  
To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

I have not gotten clearance on the enhanced statement, so, for now, you can use the cleared OPA statement from yesterday.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:28 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

We're getting inquiries into our OCA Inbox on the Iranian/Blaine issue as well. Can we use the statement you're working on to send to them as well?

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:15 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Subject: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please review the incoming below - no docs included. Let me know if/when I can log as closed or if you assign it out. Any assistance is appreciated. Thanks!

V/R,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Room 5.4-A | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (fa) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6)

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:45 PM

To: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Subject: Iranian Detention in Blaine

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I work in Congresswoman DelBene's office. She has asked for an update on the detention of Iranians earlier this morning in Blaine.

If you could provide us with an update it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6)  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (WA-01)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 4:12 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: C1/C2 guidance on Iranian security threat

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 6:48 PM  
**To:** THOMAS, ZACHARY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SCHMELZ, JASON W  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); BROWN, LISA BETH M  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** C1/C2 guidance on Iranian security threat

The following is a summary of call with C1 and C2 earlier today.

CBP will be issuing a non-classified message this evening on the Iranian threat. I will forward once it is received.

DHS has convened department heads and they are reviewing the national terrorism advisory system guidelines and some time over the weekend S1 will issue a message on threat conditions. It should be in the form of a security bulletin.

The message is increased vigilance and situational awareness of our front line, on and off duty. This should be messaged in musters.

(b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)

All leadership has been put on notice to be available over the weekend in the event further guidance is issued.

I believe we have solid measures in place that meet all the above requirements and the enhanced security posture is to be maintained until advised otherwise.

I will pass on additional information when received.

Adele J. Fasano  
Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)** (Office)



---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 5:23 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

Thank you. Appreciate the follow-up.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 5:13 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Read out of call with Congresswoman DELBENE

Call with Congresswoman DelBene, the following is a Q&A from the call:

Q: Their offices received complaints of USCs being held at the border for 6 – 10 hours over the weekend;

Q: Is this a change from previous weeks?

A: The agency's policy is that we do not profile. Due to the events that occurred in Iraq where a senior Iranian general was killed, CBP was placed on high alert. We implement several measures to ensure the safety of the homeland. On Saturday, there was a popular Persian Pop band concert in Vancouver that resulted in many of those attendees arriving at the border simultaneously. This stretched our resources. It is no secret that certain demographics are higher risk and during the inspectional process if we identify concerns in a traveler's travel history it can slow the inspectional process down when we determine the risk. When travelers state that they wait several hours at the border, they often include the time spent in line awaiting primary inspection and at that time the waits were 1 – 2 hours, so the actual secondary inspection time is the balance of that. During the secondary inspection we have several layers of management engage in the inspectional process.

Q: If someone crossed today, would they be treated differently?

A: We have brought in additional officers to assist with the workload that comes with increased holiday traffic and currently there are practically no waits at the ports.

Q: They felt like they were targeted for their heritage:

A: The process can be lengthy and if our concern is for one individual in the vehicle, all occupants are detained until the inspection process is complete. So, as the articles state that were 60 people of Iranian descent (I can validate that), that could be roughly 11 – 12 refers.

Q: Did we confiscate Passports

A: No, we did not confiscate passports, holding the passport until the inspection is completed is our normal process.



Q: People were given orange cards and sent to a different area;

A: This is a normal process when a traveler is referred to secondary

Closing: There will be a CRCL next week in Ferndale, WA where someone from the Seattle Field Office will be there.

Thanks

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 11:49 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

FYSA

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:43 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

This is the approved statement:

As previously stated, there is no national directive, memo, etc. from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their country of origin.

On Friday, CBP field leadership participated in a teleconference with Acting Commissioner Morgan and Deputy Commissioner Perez, where the field was asked to remain vigilant and increase their situational awareness given the evolving threat environment. On Saturday, January 4, 2020, Acting Secretary Wolf issued the National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin, which stated that DHS was operating under an enhanced posture due to the current threat environment. Again, there is no national directive from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their

country of origin. Field Leadership has discretion on how to enhance operational posture based upon the totality of circumstances, including AOR specific information.

When CBP leadership was made aware of the reports at Blaine, they quickly contacted the Blaine POE for additional information and discussion to ensure that secondary screening determinations are based upon a totality of circumstances. CBP leadership will continue to engage the field with respect to operational responses to the current threat to safeguard national security and protect the American people.

Please close the loop with CHS and Judiciary. Along with the others who have asked.

Thanks.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:16 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Any word on the enhanced statement yet?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Director (B&A) Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection | Department of Homeland Security  
O: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | ✉ (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

Can you please reach out to them regarding the Member's call to the port director? Thanks.

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:52:37 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE\_iranian

I gave staff the statement you sent out yesterday. Other than that I have not received any communication back from Rep. DelBende's office.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 1:50 PM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

Have you responded to the staff yet? The Field just called and said the Member herself has called and left 3 voicemails for the port director. I told the ADFO that I was fine with he or the Port Director speaking to her directly; however, I want to ensure that we close the loop with the staff. If you haven't already, please reach out to the staffer and also check about the Member calling the field.

Thanks.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:54 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

10-4, thanks.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:52 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

I have not gotten clearance on the enhanced statement, so, for now, you can use the cleared OPA statement from yesterday.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:28 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

>  
Subject: FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

We're getting inquiries into our OCA Inbox on the Iranian/Blaine issue as well. Can we use the statement you're working on to send to them as well?

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Sent: Monday, January 6, 2020 10:15 AM

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Subject: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 DELBENE iranian

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please review the incoming below - no docs included. Let me know if/when I can log as closed or if you assign it out. Any assistance is appreciated. Thanks!

V/R,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Room 5.4-A | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (fax (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6)

Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 9:45 PM

To: OCAINQUIRY <[OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov)>

Subject: Iranian Detention in Blaine

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),

I work in Congresswoman DelBene's office. She has asked for an update on the detention of Iranians earlier this morning in Blaine.

If you could provide us with an update it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6)  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (WA-01)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 6:08 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Subject:** Re: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

No, I specifically gav (b) (6), (b) (7) the talking points to stick with and prep him with questions in advance to see how he would answer. I (b) (6), (b) (7) had questions he couldn't answer she was going to be referred to me. If she wanted to raise it up the chain I wanted to be the next in line.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 6, 2020, at 3:03 PM, FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

How about the 1st one

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 5:02 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

No The 2nd call was only a staffer

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 6, 2020, at 3:01 PM, FASANO, ADELE  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Did you listen in on both calls  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 6, 2020 at 4:54:59 PM CST  
**To:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

DFO,

I had a call with Congressman Larsen's staffer (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) the following is a Q&A from the call:

Intro (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) I have spoken with Congresswoman DelBene and wanted to extend the courtesy to Congressman Larsen. You have likely received the press release from CBP speaking to the fact that we are on high alert due to the events that transpired in Iraq last week resulted in the death of a high ranking Iranian General and potential retaliation. Our officers on primary only have seconds to screen passengers arriving from foreign. Certain areas of the world want to do the homeland harm and travelers arrive in Blaine can be arriving from those locations via the Vancouver International Airport.

Q: Did the department send out a directive that specifically mentioned Iran?

A: The only reference specific to Iran was the strike that killed the Iranian general, and each Field Office was instructed to enhance our security posture at the port of entry

Q: One of the largest concerns is the primary reason they were pulled in.

A: The primary officer has the discretionary authority to refer travelers who arouse their suspicion. If there is one person in a conveyance containing several occupants, all are referred to secondary for further screening. They have a short time to make a determination of risk. Often times when travelers arrive in secondary, they see travelers of the same demographics and come to the conclusion that CBP is looking at all Indians or Chinese, when in reality, these folks are from countries who require a document (I-94) in their passport to accompany their visa. So suspicion becomes reality. CBP Officers are looking for risks in the primary booth, a totality of the circumstances

Q: Do you keep records of demographics of travelers referred.

A: CBP does not track the demographics of USC travelers.

Q: If you were looking for that, where would you get it

A: I have never requested that information, so I would likely start at our HQ

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated, "I appreciate you returning my call and I will likely have additional questions after speaking with the Congressman, can you send them to you". I informed her that inquiries can be forwarded to the CBP Office of Congressional Affairs, as I would be doing the same if she were to send them to me.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated, "I want to be transparent, we will continue to pursue this matter, as there are discrepancies between what our office has heard and what you are saying".

I reminded her that there will be a CRCL meeting in Ferndale, WA next week, where representatives from DHS and OFO will be present.

Call end....

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*

**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 10:02 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken-

Could I please get a name and phone number for whomever is running point? I'm familiar with the general inbox and your protocol.

(b) (6), (b) (7)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Currently the POC is [ocainquiry.cbp.dhs.gov](http://ocainquiry.cbp.dhs.gov)

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*

**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 9:35 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken-

Understood. Could you please connect me with the best POC at the Seattle office to direct our questions too?

(b) (6), (b) (7)



---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 12:32 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Due to the level of inquiries and media interest, CBP Office of Field Operations Seattle is working in concert with OFO HQ and the CBP Office of Congressional Affairs on a response.

Respectfully,

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:51 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WILLIAMS,  
KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

Hi Ken an (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm trying to get ahead of questions on the below. Can we connect ASAP? My cell number is (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), I'm around all day.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

BREAKIN  
G: CAIR-  
WA  
Assisting  
Iranian-  
Americans

# Detained at U.S. Border

(SEATTLE, WA,  
1/5/20) – The  
Washington state  
chapter of the  
Council on  
American-Islamic  
Relations (CAIR-  
WA) is assisting  
more than 60  
Iranians and  
Iranian-  
Americans of all  
ages who were  
detained at length  
and questioned at  
the Peace Arch  
Border Crossing  
in Blaine, Wash.

Many more were  
reportedly refused  
entry to the  
United States due  
to a lack of  
capacity for  
Customs and  
Border Patrol

(CBP) to detain them.

Other Iranian-Americans are about to cross the Peace Arch Border as they return back to their homes in the United States from an Iranian pop concert that was taking place on Saturday in Vancouver, Canada.

Those detained reported that their passports were confiscated and they were questioned about their political views and allegiances. CBP officials contacted at the Blaine Port of Entry provided no comment or

reasons for the  
detentions.

[NOTE: CAIR  
published “Know  
Your Rights”  
materials online in  
English, Arabic,  
Somali, Urdu,  
Farsi, Bengali,  
and Bosnian. The  
multi-language  
civil rights  
materials may be  
printed out for  
personal use or  
for distribution at  
local events. **GO  
TO:** <https://www.cair.com/KnowYourRights> ]

Crystal, a 24-  
year-old  
American citizen  
and medical  
student was  
allegedly detained  
and interrogated  
for more than 10  
hours with her  
family at the

Peace Arch  
Border Crossing  
before being  
released early this  
morning. “The  
vast majority of  
people being held  
last night were  
American  
citizens,” said  
Crystal. “We kept  
asking why we  
were being  
detained and  
asked questions  
that had nothing  
to do with our  
reason for  
traveling and was  
told ‘I’m sorry  
this is just the  
wrong time for  
you guys.’”

A source at CBP  
reported that the  
Department of  
Homeland  
Security (DHS)  
has issued  
a national order to  
CBP to “report”

and detain anyone with Iranian heritage entering the country who is deemed potentially suspicious or “adversarial,” regardless of citizenship status. CBP at the Peace Arch Border Crossing did not confirm or deny this report.

“These reports are extremely troubling and potentially constitute illegal detentions of United States citizens,”

said **Masih Fouladi,**  
**executive director of CAIR-WA.**

“We are working to verify reports of a broad

nationwide  
directive to detain  
Iranian-  
Americans at  
ports of entry so  
that we can  
provide  
community  
members with  
accurate travel  
guidance. We will  
continue to update  
the community  
and other civil  
rights  
organizations as  
we obtain more  
information.”

CAIR is  
America's largest  
Muslim civil  
liberties and  
advocacy  
organization. Its  
mission is to  
enhance  
understanding of  
Islam, protect  
civil rights,  
promote justice,  
and empower

American  
Muslims.

La misión de  
CAIR es proteger  
las libertades  
civiles, mejorar la  
comprensión del  
Islam, promover  
la justicia, y  
empoderar a los  
musulmanes en  
los Estados  
Unidos.

**END**

<https://www.cair.com/breaking-cair-wa-assisting-iran-american-s-detained-us-border>

**(b) (6)**  
Legislative Director  
Rep. Rick Larsen,  
WA-02



---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 6:37 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** FW: Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

Just FYI,

All the individuals are satisfying the primary officers that there is no derog on primary and are being admitted on primary.

TAU has had no referrals today.

Further guidance as if 1245

USCs, US LPR and Canadian Citizens

If primary officer is satisfied no derogatory information is present that can admit on primary

(b) (7)(E)

If you have 10 or more in secondary call DFO or processing time for them reaches 2 hours call DFO

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office  
Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Warning: This email and any attachments are UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized DHS official. No portion of this email should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form. If you are not an intended recipient or believe you have received this communication in error, please do not print, copy, retransmit, disseminate, or otherwise use this information. Please inform the sender that you received this message in error and delete the message from your system.**

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:53 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) THOMAS, ZACHARY C  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SCHMELZ, JASON W  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) BROWN, LISA BETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SAAR, DIRK J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

Further guidance as if 1245

USCs, US LPR and Canadian Citizens

If primary officer is satisfied no derogatory information is present that can admit on primary

(b) (7)(E)

If you have 10 or more in secondary call DFO or processing time for them reaches 2 hours call DFO

For this operation, CBP will not target by nationality. The concern is the Iranian government using its Islamic Revolutionary Guard, their military and special forces or Hezbollah operatives using recruits as sympathizers, financiers, or operatives to wage asymmetric warfare or stage an attack in the United States (b) (7)(E)

Due to mandatory military conscription in Iran, many persons may have served in the Iranian military. The following guidance should provide further clarification on what frontline officers should be looking for.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 5, 2020, at 10:39 AM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

APDs

The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow o (b) (7)(E). Due to the magnitude of the vetting and approval process from the Field Office to the Area Ports, the following guidelines will now take effect to streamline thi (b) (7)(E)

**1. All United States Citizens (USCs), United States (US) Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) meeting the parameters of Operation Support:**

- a. If the port does not find any derogatory information, a Port Manager GS-14 or above may approve their release.

- b. If the port finds derogatory information, the person will be sent to th (b) (7)(E)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (when applicable) to the Tactical Analytical Unit (TAU) for approval by the Assistant Director of Field Operations (ADFO) of Border Security and Facilitation (BSF) or the Director of Field Operations (DFO).



4. If there are any significant delays at the ports in response to Operation Support, **ALL USCs and US LPRs will take priority.**

Lastly as long as you don't have a credible threat at a specific port you are no longer required to staff your non 24-hour ports after hours or enhanced security patrols. Please ensure you have adequate staffing in the CASC to monitor the ports of entry

Please call me if you have any questions

Thanks

Michael Freeman

Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

CBP000481

CBP000482

CBP0000483

CBP0000484

**CBP0000485**



CBP0000486

CBP0000487

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 11:13 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [5:49 PM]:

Receive this back from Larsen's office: Understood. Could you please connect me with the best POC at the Seattle office to direct our questions too?

[5:49 PM] BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [5:49 PM]:

How would you like me to respond?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [5:51 PM]:

At this point it will be OCA in HQ, I asked the XD if I could talk locally for CBP however I haven't received a response

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [5:56 PM]:

do you happen to have OCA's email address. I'm not finding it in Global. I not, I will continue to look for it.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [5:57 PM]:

ocainquiry.cbp.dhs.gov

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [5:57 PM]:

thanks

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 11:45 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:21 PM]:

Just want you to know that my phone has been ringing off the hook since I arrived today from media outlets. I have stopped answering these calls from unknown numbers and allowed them to go to voicemail.

[6:21 PM] BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:22 PM]:

No one is leaving voicemail messages

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:23 PM]:

if it gets to much defer them t (b) (6), (b) (7) or me.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:24 PM]:

Susam DelBene just left a voice mail. her number i (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:24 PM]:

Susan

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:26 PM]:

it's good they don't have your cell number, surprised I haven't received guidance yet.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:26 PM]:

That was from my cellular phone

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:29 PM]:

her staffer already knows this is being handled by HQ and they are trying to pull all the strings now.

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:04 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [6:48 PM]:  
call me  
[6:48 PM] BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 1:08 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:44 PM]:  
did you get ahold of her  
[7:44 PM] BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:44 PM]:  
No

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:49 PM]:  
did you leave a voice mail?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:49 PM]:  
No

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:49 PM]:  
call back and leave a voice mail

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:50 PM]:  
have you been able to confirm with the DFO that she is good with me talking with them?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:51 PM]:  
DAC from OCA authorized it. I'm going to send you updated info

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [7:52 PM]:  
Also let her know we will have a CRCL next week and the DFO and I would be more than happy to talk with her staffer in person.

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 4:05 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [10:55 PM]:

I have sent you the readouts from both calls today. I will not be making additional calls.

[10:55 PM] BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [10:57 PM]:

thank you

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 4:09 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [11:03 PM]:  
CRCL Senior Advisor wants to meet before the CRCL meeting next week (10 or 11 AM). I sent an email.  
[11:03 PM] BREAKING: CAIR-WA Assisting Iranian-Americans Detained at U.S. Border



---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:00 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** As Requested

Good morning,

As requested please see updated numbers below

(Please note, numbers for the previous days have been updated to reflect full 24 hour periods for those "calendar" days, and any errors/updates discovered corrected accordingly)

**Tactical Intelligence Statistics:**

- Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E); however, subject disclose (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E).
- Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(C) (b) (7)(E) and created a total o (b) (7)(E): Results are as follows:
  - One Visa Waiver Program refusal based on discovery of prior travel to Iran
  - (b) (7)(E)
  - One immigration refusal based on a discovery of a prior overstay
  - (b) (7)(E).
- Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E), and created a total o (b) (7)(E): Results are as follows:
  - One immigration refusal based on a discovery of a prior overstay
  - (b) (7)(E).
- Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(E) (b) (7)(E), and created a total o (b) (7)(E): Results are as follows:
  - (b) (7)(E).
- Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> (b) (7)(E), and created a total of (b) (7)(E):

(b) (7) (E)

(b) (7) (E)



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | U.S. Customs & Border Protection  
**Customs and Border Protection | Office of Field Operations | Area Ports of Blaine**  
**Pacific Northwest Field Intelligence Group**  
9901 Pacific Highway | Blaine, WA 98230  
[Phone (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)]

WARNING: This document is designated UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE (U//LES). It may contain information that is exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5USC552). This document is to be controlled, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information, and is not to be released to the public or to personnel who do not have a valid need to know without prior approval from the CBP Office of Intelligence. **Third Agency rule applies. Do not disseminate further without authorization from the originating agency. The results in this communication are provided as investigative leads and are intended for criminal law enforcement and/or investigative purposes only. The communication and its contents are not to be included in any affidavits, court documents or other discoverable information. If you require CBP information for court purposes, please contact CBP Certified Records at**

(b) (7)(E)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:33 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

I will be sending you the info directly

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:32 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

They should be going through us and not directly to you with these requests. Provide me the info already compiled and I will handle with OCA.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:29 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Subject:** FW: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:28 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** FW: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

Good Morning,

Thank you for all of your help with the follow up questions we have been having about Blaine, WA. Are you able to assist with the below?

“Can you please provide more information on the circumstances used for secondary screening determinations at Blaine this past weekend? Have there been any change to these circumstances since January 3, 2020? Are there any specific circumstances that are more heavily weighted than others? Did the Seattle Field Office or the Blaine Port Director issue any guidance to officers after Friday’s call regarding enhancing their operation posture? “

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 4:19 PM

**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Thank you for this update. Can you please provide more information on the circumstances used for secondary screening determinations at Blaine this past weekend? Have there been any change to these circumstances since January 3, 2020? Are there any specific circumstances that are more heavily weighted than others? Did the Seattle Field Office or the Blaine Port Director issue any guidance to officers after Friday’s call regarding enhancing their operation posture?

Best,

(b) (6)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Date:** Monday, January 6, 2020 at 3:06 PM

**Subject:** CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

Good Afternoon

Regarding the events at Blaine, WA this past weekend, there is no national directive, memo, etc. from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their country of origin.

On Friday, CBP field leadership participated in a teleconference with Acting Commissioner Morgan and Deputy Commissioner Perez, where the field was asked to remain vigilant and increase their situational awareness given the evolving threat environment. On Saturday, January 4, 2020, Acting Secretary Wolf issued the National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin, which stated that DHS was operating under an enhanced posture due to the current threat environment. Again, there is no national directive from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their country of origin. Field Leadership has discretion on how to enhance operational posture based upon the totality of circumstances, including AOR specific information.

When CBP leadership was made aware of the reports at Blaine, they quickly contacted the Blaine POE for additional information and discussion to ensure that secondary screening determinations are based upon a totality of circumstances. CBP leadership will continue to engage the field with respect to operational responses to the current threat to safeguard national security and protect the American people.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (main line) | [OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:39 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL iranians

Mike (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) has asked all these requests come through HQ first. So I'm going to forward this one as well.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:29 AM  
To: FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians

Mike - they've asked for all crossing info for the Blaine POE. For personnel, all as well.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From: FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 9:10 AM  
To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians

(b) (6), (b) (7) - the traffic wait time are for which crossing in Blaine. Do they want car, cargo or NEXUS lanes? Let them know the more they ask for the longer it will take. Thanks

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 5:54 AM  
To: FREEMAN, MICHAEL [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians  
Importance: High

Hi Mike,

Senator Cantwell's office has some follow up questions from their initial questioning regarding the Blaine POE. I know we don't usually give out port-specific staffing information, so we can probably give them FO info instead. Do you have the answers to these, or would it be better to go through OFO Field Liaison?

- 1) What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch?
- 2) How has the staff level changed over the last five years?
- 3) What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year?

Thanks,

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 8:47 AM  
To [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians  
Importance: High

Senator Cantwell has the following additional questions.

What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch?

How has the staff level changed over the last five years?

What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year?

-----Original Message-----

From [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, January 06, 2020 10:57 AM  
To [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
Cc: OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians

Good morning,

Please see below for an official statement from CBP.

STATEMENT

Social media posts that CBP is detaining Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S. because of their country of origin are false. Reports that DHS/CBP has issued a related directive are also false.

ON BACKGROUND

Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the American people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel. Processing times are the result of the current circumstances, including staffing levels, volume of traffic, and threat posture.

At the Blaine POE, wait times increased to an average of two hours on Saturday evening, although some travelers experienced wait times of up to four hours due to increased volume and reduced staff during the holiday season. Wait times Sunday morning were about 40 minutes for passenger vehicles.

CBP does not discriminate based on religion, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6)  
Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 7:21 PM  
To: OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: Re: Iranian detentions in WA state

The Senator would also like a briefing on this matter. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 5, 2020, at 2:52 PM (b) (6) > wrote:  
>  
> Senator Cantwell has heard reports of mass detention of people of Iranian descent at the Northern Border in Washington state. Could you please let us know, what happened, how this situation is being handled and how individuals' rights are being respected?  
>  
> Thank you (b) (6)  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone



CBP000509

CBP0000510

CBP0000511

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 3:53 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH; THOMAS, ZACHARY C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SCHMELZ, JASON W;  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FASANO, ADELE; BROWN, LISA BETH M; SAAR, DIRK J. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

Further guidance as if 1245

USCs, US LPR and Canadian Citizens

If primary officer is satisfied no derogatory information is present that can admit on primary

(b) (7)(E)

If you have 10 or more in secondary call DFO or processing time for them reaches 2 hours call DFO

**For this operation, CBP will not target by nationality. The concern is the Iranian government using its Islamic Revolutionary Guard, their military and special forces or Hezbollah operatives using recruits as sympathizers, financiers, or operatives to wage asymmetric warfare or stage an attack in the United States (b) (7)(E)**

**Due to mandatory military conscription in Iran, many persons may have served in the Iranian military. The following guidance should provide further clarification on what frontline officers should be looking for.**

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

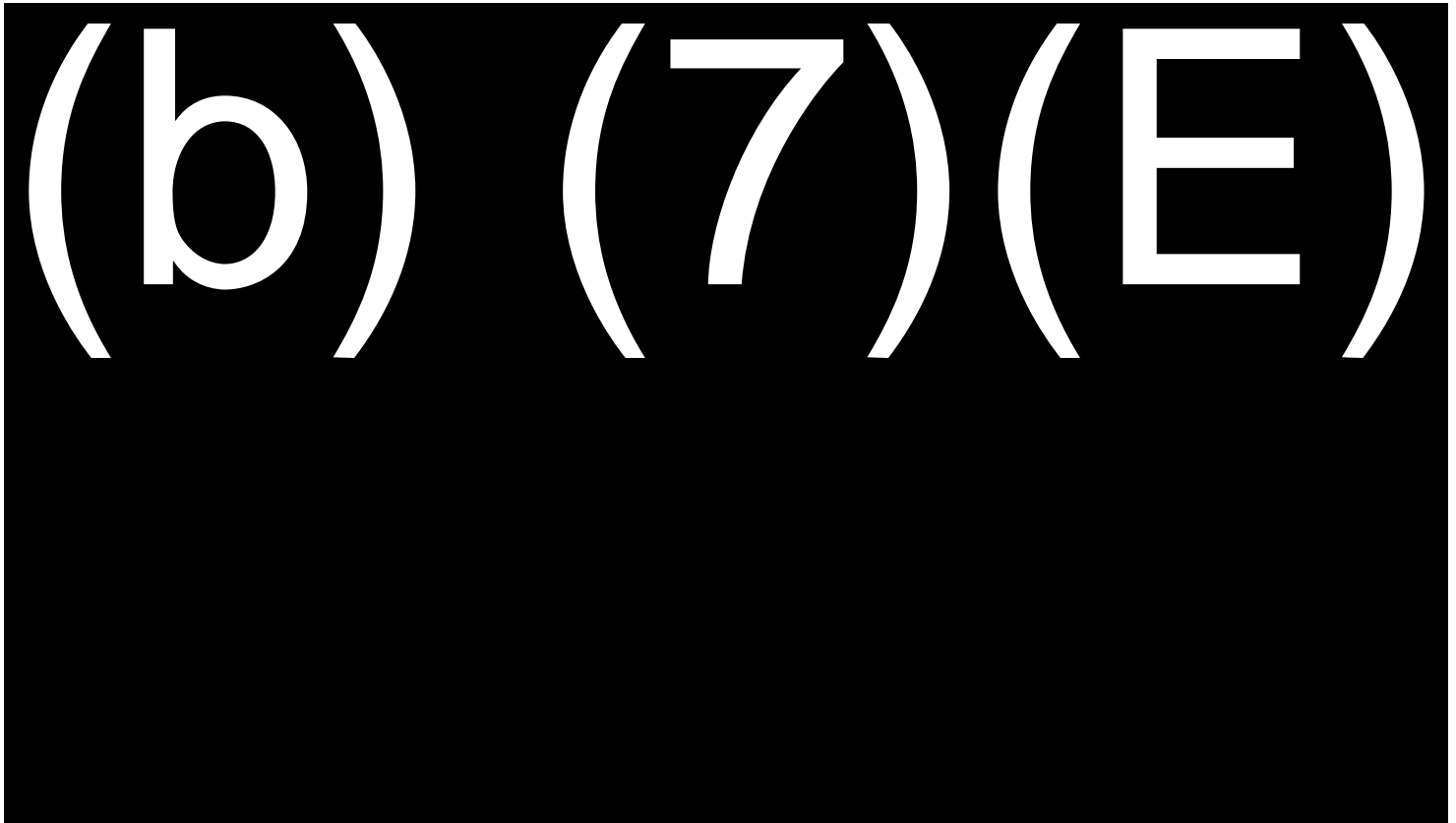
On Jan 5, 2020, at 10:39 AM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

APDs

The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow o (b) (7)(E). Due to the magnitude of the vetting and approval process from the Field Office to the Area Ports, the following guidelines will now take effect to streamline thi (b) (7)(E)

1. **All United States Citizens (USCs), United States (US) Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) meeting the parameters of Operation Support:**

- a. If the port does not find any derogatory information, a Port Manager GS-14 or above may approve their release.
- b. If the port finds derogatory information, the person will be sent to th (b) (7)(E)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (when applicable) to the Tactical Analytical Unit (TAU) for approval by the Assistant Director of Field Operations (ADFO) of Border Security and Facilitation (BSF) or the Director of Field Operations (DFO).



- 4. If there are any significant delays at the ports in response to Operation Support, **ALL USCs and US LPRs will take priority.**

Lastly as long as you don't have a credible threat at a specific port you are no longer required to staff your non 24-hour ports after hours or enhanced security patrols. Please ensure you have adequate staffing in the CASC to monitor the ports of entry

Please call me if you have any questions

Thanks

Michael Freeman

Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 2:05 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** Re: Blaine

Ok but I need to know at what time the adjustments very actually made at the port level.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2020, at 12:03 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] wrote:

First message was after the conference call you had Friday at 1215 and we send email at 1427  
Second message was Sunday at 1039 after I recommended we adjust the thresholds  
Third message was Sunday 1245 after I further recommended we adjust further after the call I had with the XD

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** FASANO, ADEL [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 9:53 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Blaine

I need to see write up on direction to APDs and timing of changes. I started the process of pulling back before the media exploded. Lack of reporting from Blaine management was major issue as I was not advised at any time that we had long processing times.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2020, at 11:22 AM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] wrote:

9hours and 15 minutes... see below

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 9:07 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >; BROWN, LISA BETH M

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine

Thank you for the follow up. Do you know what the maximum wait times were beyond 5+ hours?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director  
National Targeting Center  
Office of Field Operations  
Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:03 PM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FASANO, ADELE

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ; BROWN, LISA BETH M

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please see responses below



1. What was the local guidance provided to the ports in the Blaine AOR following C1s Friday call See attachment #1 (Iran Threat)
2. How many individuals were referred based on this guidance starting Saturday 1/3 at 1200 to Sunday 1/4 at 1200
  - a. Breakdown # USC/LPR vs foreign visitors (USCs - 85, LPRs - 48, foreign visitors - 144)
  - b. # of refusals (USCs 0, LPR 0, foreign visitors 6)
3. What is the breakdown of wait times in secondary for these individuals. Please break down as follows:
  - a. 4% processed in under 1 hour
  - b. 15% processed in 1-2 hours
  - c. 11% processed in 2-3 hours
  - d. 23% processed in 3-4 hours
  - e. 15% processed in 4-5 hours
  - f. 32% processed in over 5 hours
4. What was the redirect from the original guidance once media/congressional/HQ engagement began See attachment #2 (Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E) )

Was this standard traffic volume/make up for Saturday evening? This was normal holiday/weekend traffic, however with the enhanced security measures in place secondary inspection experienced lengthy delays. What we also have to consider are the high volume of I-94 interviews (which the average wait on the weekends are over 2 hours) and the other secondary referrals that were send into secondary (which could average 2-4 hours).

Was the guidance provided orally or written? Both, DFO Fasano had a conference call with the Area Port Directors and asked Border Security to follow up in writing. (Attachments 1 and 2)

Any other outliers that may have contributed to extended wait times (port not staffing to workload, local events on either side, etc.. (b) (7)(E) )

(b) (7)(E) It appears that the port didn't adequately staff to workload o (b) (7)(E) as a hig (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)  
 (b) (7)(E) What we also have to consider are the high volume of I-94 interviews (which the average wait on the weekends are over 2 hours) and the other secondary referrals that were send into secondary (which could average 2-4 hours). The port also was experiencing VPC issues throughout the day and OIT was installing new computer on primary.

What role did the Persian pop duo concert in Vancouver play on this situation? The concert had a minor role in the events. We had a total of 5 vehicles returning from the concert and 1 additional vehicle with 2 US LPRs that were refused entry into Canada (unknown reasons). The 5 vehicles entered between 2347 hrs and 0350 hrs. There was a total of 18 people in the 5 vehicles (16 USCs and 2 LPRs). (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E) Once the single (b) (7)(E) officer interviewed subject they would pass information on to TAU and (b) (7)(E)

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:24 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine

Mike,

Few more things to add:

Was this standard traffic volume/make up for Saturday evening?

Was the guidance provided orally or written?

Any other outliers that may have contributed to extended wait times (port not staffing to workload, local events on either side, etc..)

Also, I assume the congressional responses you are working on were tasked from Field Liaison.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:09 AM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine

I'm on it, almost finished with 2 congressional responses

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:08 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine

One additional piece:

What role did the Persian pop duo concert in Vancouver play on this situation?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations

Office of Field Operations

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:00 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Blaine

Mike,

C2 has requested the following information to prepare for a hill brief this evening:

1. What was the local guidance provided to the ports in the Blaine AOR following C1s Friday call
2. How many individuals were referred based on this guidance starting Saturday 1/3 at 1200 to Sunday 1/4 at 1200
  - a. Breakdown # USC/LPR vs foreign visitors
  - b. # of refusals
3. What is the breakdown of wait times in secondary for these individuals. Please break down as follows:
  - a. XX% processed in under 1 hour
  - b. XX% processed in 1-2 hours
  - c. XX% processed in 3-4 hours
  - d. XX% processed in 4-5 hours
  - e. XX% processed in over 5 hours
4. What was the redirect from the original guidance once media/congressional/HQ engagement began

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations

Office of Field Operations

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

<mime-attachment>  
<mime-attachment>

---

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 2:57 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WILLIAMS, KENNETH; FASANO, ADELE;  
FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Cc:** Mina, Peter (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) QUINN, TIMOTHY; SALAZAR,  
REBEKAH A. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

Hello again,

Apologies for the multiple emails, but we will be changing locations (just to the POE). The call-in information will remain the same and a calendar invite will be forthcoming from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cc'd here).

Thank you,

(b) (6)  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties  
Department of Homeland Security  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Email (b) (6)

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**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 11:49 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FASANO, ADELE  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) QUINN, TIMOTH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SALAZAR, REBEKAH A.  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

Good morning,

Looping in DFO Fasano and ADFO Freeman to check for their availability at 11:30AM on 1/15 at Sector HQ in Blaine. Please feel free to give me a call if there are any questions or concerns.

Thank you!

(b) (6)

Senior Policy Advisor  
Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties  
Department of Homeland Security  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Email (b) (6)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:40 AM  
**To** (b) (6); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete (b) (6); (b) (6) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); QUINN, TIMOTH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SALAZAR, REBEKAH A.  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

Great- thank you!

We can use the Sector HQ conference room.

2410 Natures Path Way  
Blaine, WA

Upon arrival, please use the intercom to gain access and park in the front lot.

For those calling, please utilize the information below:

Call In (b) (7)(E)  
Access Code (b) (7)(E)

Thank you and I look forward to meeting all of you next week at 1130 on January 15!

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(A) Chief Patrol Agent  
U.S. Border Patrol  
Blaine Sector Headquarters  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Desk)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:04 AM  
**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED]; QUINN, TIMOTH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SALAZAR, REBEKAH A.  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

Good morning,

That should not be a problem for our folks.

Thanks,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:01 AM  
**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED] (b) (6); WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pet [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] QUINN, TIMOTH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) SALAZAR, REBEKAH A.  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

All

Would it be possible to move this to 1130? I have a meeting at 1000 with the local Chiefs of Police and Sheriff that I need to attend- I should be clear and able to meet at 1130 instead.

I apologize for any inconvenience. If it is not possible, (A)DCP [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) can meet at 1100 and I will join when my meeting is over.

Thanks

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(A) Chief Patrol Agent  
U.S. Border Patrol  
Blaine Sector Headquarters  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 5:55 AM  
**To** [REDACTED] (b) (6) [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
WILLIAMS, KENNETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: Mina, Pete (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) QUINN, TIMOTH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SALAZAR, REBEKAH A.  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

(b) (6)

That's correct. Mr. Quinn will also be a remote participant. Thank you,

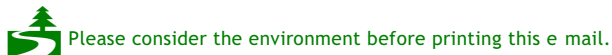
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Custody Support and Compliance Division  
& Prevention of Sexual Assault Coordinator  
Privacy and Diversity Office (PDO)  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Phone: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Fax: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Email Address: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:31 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete (b) (6) (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) QUINN, TIMOTH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SALAZAR, REBEKAH A.  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

Good morning,

Looping in Mr. Quinn and Ms. Salazar.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) 11am sounds great. We appreciate all of you making the time, and we will be done well in advance of your 1345 meeting.

Mr. Williams would you or someone else from your office be available at 11am?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) we're happy to have you and Mr. Quinn join us. I assume Mr. Quinn will be joining us remotely as well?

Thank you, everyone, for the coordination. We're looking forward to meeting and speaking with all of you.

V/R,

(b) (6)  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties



Department of Homeland Security

Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Email (b) (6)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 5:49 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6) WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

(b) (6)

(A)Deputy Chie (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)and I are available at 1100. We have a 1345 meeting with some of the local congressional staffers so just need to be clear for that. We can meet at Sector HQ or any other location.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(A) Chief Patrol Agent  
U.S. Border Patrol  
Blaine Sector Headquarters  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Desk)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 1:12 PM  
**To** (b) (6); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with DHS CRCL

Good Afternoon (b) (6)

I would like to participate. Unfortunately, I won't be on site in Blaine but can participate remotely.

Thank you and good luck with the round table.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Director, Custody Support and Compliance Division  
& Prevention of Sexual Assault Coordinator  
Privacy and Diversity Office (PDO)  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Phone: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Fax: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Email Address: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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Please consider the environment before printing this e mail.

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**From** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 2:05 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** Mina, Pete (b) (6) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Meeting with DHS CRCL

Good afternoon,

We are looking forward to CBP's participation at our roundtable next week and thank you both for your extremely fast responses to my inquiries today.

DHS CRCL's Deputy Officer for Programs & Compliance Peter Mina and Senior Policy Adviso (b) (6) from our Compliance Branch will be joining me from CRCL. We were hoping to touch base with all of you in advance of the roundtable particularly in light of recent allegations regarding prolonged secondary questioning of Iranian-Americans at the POE in Blaine. Would you both be available Wednesday morning (1/15) at around 10 or 11AM? We are happy to meet in Blaine at one of your offices.

Thank you!

(b) (6)  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties  
Department of Homeland Security  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Email (b) (6)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:37 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Sorry,

#3 in line 7. Any other information DHS and/or CBP has uncovered that would help shed light on the allegations.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:35 PM  
**To:** DRAGANAC, JOSEPH  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Not sure what you are referring to:

This is my # 3

3. What is the breakdown of wait times in secondary for these individuals. Please break down as follows:
  - a. 4% processed in under 1 hour
  - b. 15% processed in 1-2 hours
  - c. 11% processed in 2-3 hours
  - d. 23% processed in 3-4 hours
  - e. 15% processed in 4-5 hours
  - f. 32% processed in over 5 hours

And this is # (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) is referring to:

"Would you please send us: 1) Copies of all threat posture directives, orders, or any other guidance sent from DHS HQ or CBP HQ to the CBP field offices/ports of entry that concern criteria for secondary inspection, detention, or refusal of entry for travelers and that were issued on or after Thursday, Jan 2, 2020. 2) Copies of all such guidance issued before Thursday, Jan 2, that CBP and/or DHS believes is now being interpreted by field offices/ports of entry especially in Blaine in a way that results in the reported mass detentions/secondary inspections of persons of Iranian heritage. 3) Any other information DHS and/or CBP has uncovered that would help shed light on the allegations.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security

Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:26 PM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Fwd: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Can you work on #3 highlighting staffing, increased vigilance, etc.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations

Office of Field Operations

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:19:12 PM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)

**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FREEMAN, MICHAEL T

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

OFO-FIELD LIAISO

(b) (7)(E)

HOFFMAN, TODD

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Clarification. # 1&2 were addressed by the previous information. We will prepare a response to #3 tomorrow.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations

Office of Field Operations

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:07:16 PM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISON (b) (7)(E)

**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FREEMAN, MICHAEL T

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

OFO-FIELD LIAISO

(b) (7)(E)

HOFFMAN, TODD

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Good Afternoon,

Please see the additional questions in the attachment under Line 7 that staffers from HSGAC would like to address. Please let me know the responses that I can move forward with.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection

1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (main line) | [OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E) ; HOFFMAN, TODD A  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Thank you!

On Jan 7, 2020, at 12:47 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch? SFO staffing numbers below.

SFO Onboard	
FY 16	1673 FY 16
FY 17	1625 FY 17
FY 18	1640 FY 18
FY 19	1675 FY 19
FY 20	1705 FY 20

How has the staff level changed over the last five years? See above chart

What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year? See attachment (wait time in minutes)

In regards to the response to CHS, we recommend deferring till after the hill brief later today to see how C1 wishes to address this to ensure consistency.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 11:39 AM  
**To:** OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HOWE, RANDY J  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Blaine POE Questions from Members

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) /OFO,

Attached are the combined follow up questions so far from Hill staff. These are all the follow ups OCA has received so far, but if additional are received we will continue to update this spreadsheet and send, unless they are duplicates. As you are able, please send the responses back to OCA so we can respond to staff.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<Wait times 2020.xlsx>

<Blaine POE Questions from Members Updated.xlsx>

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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:41 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Blaine  
**Attachments:** FW: Iran Threat; Re: Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PA waits.xlsx

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 9:03 AM  
**To:** DRAGANAC, JOSEPH <JOSEPH.DRAGANAC@cbp.dhs.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
BROWN, LISA BETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) please see responses below

1. What was the local guidance provided to the ports in the Blaine AOR following C1s Friday call See attachment #1 (Iran Threat)
2. How many individuals were referred based on this guidance starting Saturday 1/3 at 1200 to Sunday 1/4 at 1200
  - a. Breakdown # USC/LPR vs foreign visitors (USCs - 85, LPRs - 48, foreign visitors - 144)
  - b. # of refusals (USCs 0, LPR 0, foreign visitors 6)
3. What is the breakdown of wait times in secondary for these individuals. Please break down as follows:
  - a. 4% processed in under 1 hour
  - b. 15% processed in 1-2 hours
  - c. 11% processed in 2-3 hours
  - d. 23% processed in 3-4 hours
  - e. 15% processed in 4-5 hours
  - f. 32% processed in over 5 hours
4. What was the redirect from the original guidance once media/congressional/HQ engagement began See attachment #2 (Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E) )

Was this standard traffic volume/make up for Saturday evening? This was normal holiday/weekend traffic, however with the enhanced security measures in place secondary inspection experienced lengthy delays. What

we also have to consider are the high volume of I-94 interviews (which the average wait on the weekends are over 2 hours) and the other secondary referrals that were send into secondary (which could average 2-4 hours).

Was the guidance provided orally or written? Both, DFO Fasano had a conference call with the Area Port Directors and asked Border Security to follow up in writing. (Attachments 1 and 2)

Any other outliers that may have contributed to extended wait times (port not staffing to workload, local events on either side, etc.. [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] (b) (7)(E). It appears that the port didn't adequately staff to workload on [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) as [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

What we also have to consider are the high volume of I-94 interviews (which the average wait on the weekends are over 2 hours) and the other secondary referrals that were send into secondary (which could average 2-4 hours). The port also was experiencing VPC issues throughout the day and OIT was installing new computer on primary.

What role did the Persian pop duo concert in Vancouver play on this situation? The concert had a minor role in the events. We had a total of 5 vehicles returning from the concert and 1 additional vehicle with 2 US LPRs that were refused entry into Canada (unknown reasons). The 5 vehicles entered between 2347 hrs and 0350 hrs. There was a total of 18 people in the 5 vehicles (16 USCs and 2 LPRs). [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

[REDACTED]. Once the singl [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) officer interviewed subject they would pass information on to TAU an [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:24 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine

Mike,

Few more things to add:

Was this standard traffic volume/make up for Saturday evening?

Was the guidance provided orally or written?

Any other outliers that may have contributed to extended wait times (port not staffing to workload, local events on either side, etc..)

Also, I assume the congressional responses you are working on were tasked from Field Liaison.



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:09 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine

I'm on it, almost finished with 2 congressional responses

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:08 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine

One additional piece:

What role did the Persian pop duo concert in Vancouver play on this situation?

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 10:00 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Blaine

Mike,

C2 has requested the following information to prepare for a hill brief this evening:

1. What was the local guidance provided to the ports in the Blaine AOR following C1s Friday call

2. How many individuals were referred based on this guidance starting Saturday 1/3 at 1200 to Sunday 1/4 at 1200
  - a. Breakdown # USC/LPR vs foreign visitors
  - b. # of refusals
3. What is the breakdown of wait times in secondary for these individuals. Please break down as follows:
  - a. XX% processed in under 1 hour
  - b. XX% processed in 1-2 hours
  - c. XX% processed in 3-4 hours
  - d. XX% processed in 4-5 hours
  - e. XX% processed in over 5 hours
4. What was the redirect from the original guidance once media/congressional/HQ engagement began

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations

Office of Field Operations

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:42 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:38 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) This may help in formulating a response.....

FYI Here are two read outs from yesterday with Congresswoman DelBene and Congressman Rick Larson's staffer yesterday

I had a call with Congressman Larsen's staffer (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)), the following is a Q&A from the call:

Intro (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) I have spoken with Congresswoman DelBene and wanted to extend the courtesy to Congressman Larsen. You have likely received the press release from CBP speaking to the fact that we are on high alert due to the events that transpired in Iraq last week resulted in the death of a high ranking Iranian General and potential retaliation. Our officers on primary only have seconds to screen passengers arriving from foreign. Certain areas of the world want to do the homeland harm and travelers arrive in Blaine can be arriving from those locations via the Vancouver International Airport.

Q: Did the department send out a directive that specifically mentioned Iran?

A: The only reference specific to Iran was the strike that killed the Iranian general, and each Field Office was instructed to enhance our security posture at the port of entry

Q: One of the largest concerns is the primary reason they were pulled in.

A: The primary officer has the discretionary authority to refer travelers who arouse their suspicion. If there is one person in a conveyance containing several occupants, all are referred to secondary for further screening. They have a short time to make a determination of risk. Often times when travelers arrive in secondary, they see travelers of the same demographics and come to the conclusion that CBP is looking at all Indians or Chinese, when in reality, these folks are from countries who require a document (I-94) in their passport to accompany their visa. So suspicion becomes reality. CBP Officers are looking for risks in the primary booth, a totality of the circumstances

Q: Do you keep records of demographics of travelers referred.

A: CBP does not track the demographics of USC travelers.

Q: If you were looking for that, where would you get it

A: I have never requested that information, so I would likely start at our HQ

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated, "I appreciate you returning my call and I will likely have additional questions after speaking with the Congressman, can you send them to you". I informed her that inquiries can be forwarded to the CBP Office of Congressional Affairs, as I would be doing the same if she were to send them to me.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated, "I want to be transparent, we will continue to pursue this matter, as there are discrepancies between what our office has heard and what you are saying".

I reminded her that there will be a CRCL meeting in Ferndale, WA next week, where representatives from DHS and OFO will be present.

I had a call with Congresswoman DelBene, the following is a Q&A from the call:

Q: Their offices received complaints of USCs being held at the border for 6 - 10 hours over the weekend;

Q: Is this a change from previous weeks?

A: The agency's policy is that we do not profile. Due to the events that occurred in Iraq where a senior Iranian general was killed, CBP was placed on high alert. We implement several measures to ensure the safety of the homeland. On Saturday, there was a popular Persian Pop band concert in Vancouver that resulted in many of those attendees arriving at the border simultaneously. This stretched our resources. It is no secret that certain demographics are higher risk and during the inspectional process if we identify concerns in a traveler's travel history it can slow the inspectional process down when we determine the risk. When travelers state that they wait several hours at the border, they often include the time spent in line awaiting primary inspection and at that time the waits were 1 - 2 hours, so the actual secondary inspection time is the balance of that. During the secondary inspection we have several layers of management engage in the inspectional process.

Q: If someone crossed today, would they be treated differently?

A: We have brought in additional officers to assist with the workload that comes with increased holiday traffic and currently there are practically no waits at the ports.

Q: They felt like they were targeted for their heritage:

A: The process can be lengthy and if our concern is for one individual in the vehicle, all occupants are detained until the inspection process is complete. So, as the articles state that were 60 people of Iranian descent (I can validate that), that could be roughly 11 - 12 refers.

Q: Did we confiscate Passports

A: No, we did not confiscate passports, holding the passport until the inspection is completed is our normal process.

Q: People were given orange cards and sent to a different area;

A: This is a normal process when a traveler is referred to secondary

Closing: There will be a CRCL next week in Ferndale, WA where someone from the Seattle Field Office will be there.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:28 AM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** FW: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

Good Morning,

Thank you for all of your help with the follow up questions we have been having about Blaine, WA. Are you able to assist with the below?

“Can you please provide more information on the circumstances used for secondary screening determinations at Blaine this past weekend? Have there been any change to these circumstances since January 3, 2020? Are there any specific circumstances that are more heavily weighted than others? Did the Seattle Field Office or the Blaine Port Director issue any guidance to officers after Friday’s call regarding enhancing their operation posture? “

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 4:19 PM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

H (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Thank you for this update. Can you please provide more information on the circumstances used for secondary screening determinations at Blaine this past weekend? Have there been any change to these circumstances since January 3, 2020? Are there any specific circumstances that are more heavily weighted than others? Did the Seattle Field Office or the Blaine Port Director issue any guidance to officers after Friday’s call regarding enhancing their operation posture?

Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Date:** Monday, January 6, 2020 at 3:06 PM

**Subject:** CBP Screenings at Blaine, WA

Good Afternoon

Regarding the events at Blaine, WA this past weekend, there is no national directive, memo, etc. from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their country of origin.

On Friday, CBP field leadership participated in a teleconference with Acting Commissioner Morgan and Deputy Commissioner Perez, where the field was asked to remain vigilant and increase their situational awareness given the evolving threat environment. On Saturday, January 4, 2020, Acting Secretary Wolf issued the National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin, which stated that DHS was operating under an enhanced posture due to the current threat environment. Again, there is no national directive from DHS or CBP leadership with instructions to detain Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S because of their country of origin. Field Leadership has discretion on how to enhance operational posture based upon the totality of circumstances, including AOR specific information.

When CBP leadership was made aware of the reports at Blaine, they quickly contacted the Blaine POE for additional information and discussion to ensure that secondary screening determinations are based upon a totality of circumstances. CBP leadership will continue to engage the field with respect to operational responses to the current threat to safeguard national security and protect the American people.

Thank you,

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20229

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (main line) | [OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:42 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Blaine POE Questions from Members  
**Attachments:** Blaine POE Questions from Members Updated.xlsx

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:07 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) RO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOFFMAN, TODD (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Good Afternoon,

Please see the additional questions in the attachment under Line 7 that staffers from HSGAC would like to address. Please let me know the responses that I can move forward with.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (main line) | [OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FREEMAN, MICHAEL T

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E); HOFFMAN, TODD A

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Thank you!

On Jan 7, 2020, at 12:47 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch? SFO staffing numbers below.

SFO Onboard	
FY 16	1673
FY 17	1625
FY 18	1640
FY 19	1675
FY 20	1705

How has the staff level changed over the last five years? See above chart

What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year? See attachment (wait time in minutes)

In regards to the response to CHS, we recommend deferring till after the hill brief later today to see how C1 wishes to address this to ensure consistency.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 Deputy Executive Director Operations  
 Office of Field Operations  
 U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 11:39 AM

**To:** OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOWE, RANDY J

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Blaine POE Questions from Members



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) /OFO,

Attached are the combined follow up questions so far from Hill staff. These are all the follow ups OCA has received so far, but if additional are received we will continue to update this spreadsheet and send, unless they are duplicates. As you are able, please send the responses back to OCA so we can respond to staff.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<Wait times 2020.xlsx>

<Blaine POE Questions from Members Updated.xlsx>

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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 4:55 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Seattle Field Office encounters on 1/4

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Date:** January 5, 2020 at 2:36:04 PM PST  
**To:** "HOWE, RANDY J" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "CONROY, DONALD" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FORET, VERNON T"  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), "FASANO, ADEL" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject: Re: Seattle Field Office encounters on 1/4**

Here's where ended up:

#### STATEMENT

Social media posts that CBP is detaining Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S. because of their country of origin are false. Reports that DHS/CBP has issued a related directive are also false.

#### ON BACKGROUND

Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel. Processing times are the result of the current circumstances, including staffing levels, volume of traffic, and threat posture.

At the Blaine POE, wait times increased to an average of two hours [on Saturday evening](#), although some travelers experienced wait times of up to four hours due to increased volume and reduced staff during the holiday season. Wait times [Sunday morning](#) were about 40 minutes for passenger vehicles.

CBP does not discriminate based on religion, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

On Jan 5, 2020, at 2:15 PM, HOWE, RANDY [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Randy J. Howe  
Executive Director, Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Office)  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Cell)

On Jan 5, 2020, at 14:05 [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED] wrote:

<Seattle Field Office encounters on 1\_4>

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:39 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH; THOMAS, ZACHARY C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SCHMELZ, JASON W;  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FASANO, ADELE; BROWN, LISA BETH M; SAAR, DIRK J. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Updated Seattle Field Office Policy fo (b) (7)(E)

APDs

The Field Office has provided guidance to the Area Ports regarding work flow o (b) (7)(E). Due to the magnitude of the vetting and approval process from the Field Office to the Area Ports, the following guidelines will now take effect to streamline thi (b) (7)(E)

**1. All United States Citizens (USCs), United States (US) Legal Permanent Residents (LPRs) meeting the parameters of Operation Support:**

- a. If the port does not find any derogatory information, a Port Manager GS-14 or above may approve their release.
- b. If the port finds derogatory information, the person will be sent to th (b) (7)(E)  
(when applicable) to the Tactical Analytical Unit (TAU) for approval by the Assistant Director of Field Operations (ADFO) of Border Security and Facilitation (BSF) or the Director of Field Operations (DFO).

(b) (7) (E)

(b) (7) (E)

4. If there are any significant delays at the ports in response to Operation Support, **ALL USCs and US LPRs will take priority.**

Lastly as long as you don't have a credible threat at a specific port you are no longer required to staff your non 24-hour ports after hours or enhanced security patrols. Please ensure you have adequate staffing in the CASC to monitor the ports of entry

Please call me if you have any questions

Thanks

Michael Freeman

Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:23 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T; BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Requested narrative DRAFT  
**Attachments:** Enhanced posture.docx

Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel.

The primary officer has a short time to make a determination of risk. The primary officer has the discretionary authority to refer travelers who arouse their suspicion.

This was a normally high volume holiday/weekend traffic weekend. There were a high volume of I-94 interviews and other secondary referrals (which could average 2-4 hours processing time). Processing time includes the time spent in line waiting for secondary inspection with waits up to one to two hours before encountering the secondary officer. Depending on the type of secondary inspection, additional hours can be added to the traveler's inspection.

Other variables that may have contributed to extended wait times were port not staffing to workload, local events on either side, etc. It appears that the port didn't adequately staff the workload on primary and secondary inspection areas:

(b) (7)(E)

Staffing for primary and secondary inspections:

(b) (7)(E)

The port only staffed on (b) (7)(E) officer for the evening and midnight shifts supporting both Blaine Ports (Peace Arch and Pacific Highway) (b) (7)(E).

Secondary inspections:

The two Blaine ports (Peace Arch and Pacific Highway) had a total of 991 referrals on January 4. These secondary referrals were for customs, immigration, complex, I-94, and agriculture inspections. Of those 991 referrals, 148 referrals were processed for the enhanced measures operation.

Once the single (b) (7)(E) officer interviewed an individual, they would then pass the information on to TAU and (b) (7)(E)

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 8:00 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Subject:** Re: Letter from House Members re: CBP/Iranian Americans

I hope not

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 7, 2020, at 4:59 PM, FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Or the port directors are presenting themselves as the final authority or have communication with congressional offices without my knowledge

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2020, at 6:57 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Well the Port Director's are recognized as the leader of the Port peoples on the outside may not recognize you are the leader of the port.... sorry I'm just guessing

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 7, 2020, at 4:55 PM, FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

That has not happened in other FOs i have worked in.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2020, at 6:48 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

I can only assume that they know this occurred at the Blaine POE and it is known he is the Port Director there. When I was in PD at the different locations congressional letters, lawsuits and calls were always addressed to DHS and me as the PD

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office



On Jan 7, 2020, at 4:44 PM, FASANO, ADELE

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Why is this stuff not being sent to me but directly to APD?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Date:** January 7, 2020 at 6:31:23 PM CST  
**To:** OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>, OFO-FIELD LIAISON (b) (7)(E)  
**Cc:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)" "FREEMAN, MICHAEL T" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) "BROWN, LISA BETH M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)", "WILLIAMS, KENNETH" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter from House Members re: CBP/Iranian Americans

OCA, Field Liaison,

Please find the attached letter from the House of Members regarding the detention of Iranian Americans at the Blaine Port of Entry. House Members are requesting a briefing on these matters and document production by January 21, 2020.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6) >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 2:38 PM  
**To:** CongresstoDHS <CongresstoDHS@hq.dhs.gov> (b) (6)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Letter from House Members re: CBP/Iranian Americans

Good evening,

Please find attached a letter from Congresswoman Jayapal, Chairman Nadler, Subcommittee Chair Lofgren, Chairman Thompson, Chairwoman Maloney, and Subcommittee Chairwoman Rice requesting more information on reports of large numbers of people of Iranian heritage being held in secondary inspection over the weekend in Blaine, Washington. We request a briefing on these matters and document production by January 21, 2020.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Best,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Legislative Director

Office of Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal (WA-07)

1510 Longworth House Office Building | Washington, DC 20515

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<image001.png>

<image002.png>

<image003.png>

<CBP\_Iran\_Letter\_01072019.pdf>

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 7, 2020

The Honorable Chad Wolf  
Acting Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Mark A. Morgan  
Acting Commissioner  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Kenneth L. Williams  
Port Director, Blaine Sector  
Blaine, WA 98230

Dear Acting Secretary Wolf, Acting Commissioner Morgan, and Port Director Williams:

We write to express our alarm about U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reportedly holding large numbers of people of Iranian heritage in secondary inspection for up to 12 hours over the weekend of January 4-5, 2020, at the Peace Arch Border Crossing in Blaine, Washington.

The *New York Times* reported that more than 60 people were held in secondary inspection for up to 10 hours.<sup>1</sup> Observers on the ground have reported that as many as 200 people were held for secondary inspection during this period.<sup>2</sup> Many impacted individuals were U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, including seniors and children. In one case, CBP held a family of four U.S. citizens of Iranian descent—who were pre-screened for expedited processing as Nexus pass holders—for nearly five hours.<sup>3</sup>

In response to criticism, CBP stated that “CBP field leadership participated in a teleconference with Acting Commissioner Morgan and Deputy Commissioner Perez, where the field was asked to remain vigilant and increase their situational awareness given the evolving threat environment.”<sup>4</sup> CBP also released statements attributing long waits to high traffic during late hours, when the port has lower staffing levels.<sup>5</sup> These statements, however, do not explain why impacted persons were overwhelmingly of Iranian heritage, nor why pre-cleared U.S. citizen travelers would have been placed in secondary inspection and delayed for five hours. The

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<sup>1</sup> Zolan Kanno-Youngs, Mike Baker & Mariel Padilla, *U.S. Stops Dozens of Iranian-Americans Returning from Canada*, N.Y. TIMES (Jan. 5, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/05/us/politics/iranian-americans-border.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Mike Baker & Caitlin Dickerson, *Iranian-Americans Questioned at the Border: ‘My Kids Shouldn’t Experience Such Things’*, N.Y. TIMES (Jan. 6, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/06/us/border-iranians-washington-patrol.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Priscillia Alvarez, *Iranian-American Describes 5 Hour Delay For Questioning at US Border Crossing*, CNN (Jan. 6, 2020), <https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/06/politics/iranian-american-border-questioning/index.html>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*




statements also do not explain why individuals appear to have been detained throughout the day on January 4, beginning as early as 8:00 am.

In response to these troubling reports, we request a briefing on the matters discussed above by no later than January 21, 2020. We also request the following documents, including transcripts or written descriptions of any verbal communications, by January 21, 2020:

1. Any directives, orders, guidance, instructions, musters, whether verbal or in writing, or other documents and communications—issued on or after January 2, 2020—from any Department of Homeland Security or CBP official to CBP Agents or Officers regarding the screening of individuals of Iranian heritage or any other changes in screening procedures in response to the death of Qasem Soleimani.
2. Any directives, orders, guidance, instructions, musters, whether verbal or in writing, or other documents and communications specific to the Blaine Sector regarding the screening of individuals of Iranian heritage or any other changes in screening procedures in response to the death of Qasem Soleimani.
3. Any directives, orders, guidance, instructions, musters, whether verbal or in writing, or other documents and communications to Port Directors regarding the screening of individuals of Iranian heritage or any other changes in screening procedures in response to the death of Qasem Soleimani.
4. Any directives, guidance, instructions, musters, whether verbal or in writing, or other documents and communications from any Port Director to CBP Agents or Officers regarding the screening of individuals of Iranian heritage or any other changes in screening procedures in response to the death of Qasem Soleimani.
5. For the Blaine Port of Entry (POE) from January 3-6, 2020, data on the number of people subject to secondary inspection, including a breakdown by age, ethnicity, country of birth, immigration status, and length of time in secondary inspection.
6. For the Blaine POE, from January 3-6, 2020, the total number of on-duty CBP agents assigned to the processing of travelers, for each hour of the day.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

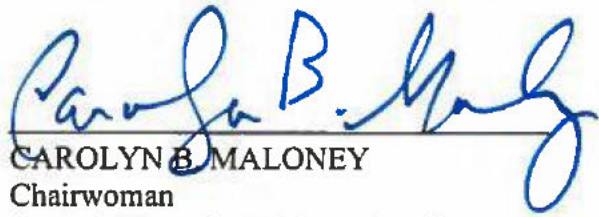
Sincerely,

		
PRAMILA JAYAPAL Vice Chair, Immigration Subcommittee House Judiciary Committee	JERROLD NADLER Chairman House Judiciary Committee	ZOE LOFGREN Chair, Immigration Subcommittee House Judiciary Committee

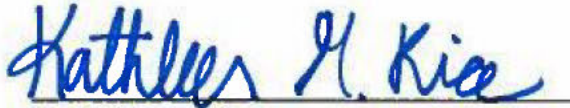




BENNIE G. THOMPSON  
Chair  
Committee on Homeland Security



CAROLYN B. MALONEY  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform



KATHLEEN RICE  
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Border  
Security, Facilitation, & Operations  
Committee on Homeland Security

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 7:54 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Subject:** Re (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I received a call from a Todd Hoffman wanting a timeline of the inspection on behalf of C-2 I was given 15 minutes to respond

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Field Operations  
Seattle Field Office

On Jan 7, 2020, at 4:51 PM, FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

What was the request from HQ on this?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2020, at 2:25 PM, FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Timeline

One day trip t (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and returnin (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
1521 Referred to secondary  
2000 Initial interview by secondary officer  
2018 Referred t (b) (7)(E) \*see notes below\*  
2254 Interview complete and referred to TAU for additional research  
0036 Admitted into us

\* Two Iranian nationals and United States citizens (Husband and wife) encountered at the Blaine, WA Peace Arch POE.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
.

Born in Tehran, Iran (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) states that he attende (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) in Tehran followed b (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) an (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) where he studied genera (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) also attended (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) after which he receive (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) states he immigrated to the United State (b) (7)(C), (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) states he returned to Iran i (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) but claims no other travel to the area. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) claims the money was for (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) in Iran and that there was no other way to get the currency to Iran and pay for th (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). The currency was returned t (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) immediately after he pai (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) She graduated fro (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) in Tehran an (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) with an Associates General degree. She has one misdemeanor theft conviction from 2006. (b) (7)(E)

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 12:14 AM  
**To:** SFO AP Seattle Leadership; SFO AP Blaine Leadership; SFO AP Pembina Leadership; SFO AP Sweetgrass Leadership; TAU-SEATTLE; OFO TACOPS SEATTLE MGMT; FASANO, ADELE; FREEMAN, MICHAEL T; BROWN, LISA BETH M (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); SEA  
**Subject:** Daily Report 1/7/2020 - Area Port of Seattle  
**Attachments:** Daily Report 01 07 20.docx; ATT00001.htm; 01 06 20.xls; ATT00002.htm

**Area Port of Seattle Daily Report: 01/7/2020**

**Area Port Duty Lead:**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)

**OFO – SIT Room Reports:**  
None during the reporting period.

**Significant Events/Visits:**  
None during the reporting period.

**Special Operations Conducted:**

(b) (7)(E)

**BP – SIT Room Reports: Situational Awareness Only:**  
None during the reporting period.

**HSI/AMO Seizure/Significant Event: Situational Awareness Only:**  
None during the reporting period.

**S/A/S Reports:**

(b) (7)(E)

**IOIL Reports:**

(b) (7)(E), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



**Agriculture:**

**Significant Agriculture Incident Reports: 0**

**Emergency Action Notifications: 1**

**Trusted Traveler (NEXUS/GLOBAL ENTRY) Administrative IOILs:**

**Application Denied: 0**

**Cards Revoked: 0**

**Electronic Media Reports:**

(b) (7)(E) – **SeaTac:** A female citizen of Bulgaria arrived aboard Delta flight number DL 143. Subject’s electronic devices were examined in accordance with CBP policy for admissibility concern (b) (7)(E). Subject’s electronic devices were returned to them and they were processed for an ER. Se (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

(b) (7)(E) **SeaTac:** A male United States citizen arrived aboard Delta flight DL 166 from Narita Japan. Subject’s electronic devices were examined in accordance with CBP policy an (b) (7)(E). Subject’s electronic device was returned to him and he was admitted as a United States citizen without further incident.

(b) (7)(E)

**Outbound Biometric Overstays:**

None during the reporting period.

**Admissibility Adverse Actions:**

- Expedited Removal 1
- Notice to Appear 0
- Visa Waiver Refusal 0
- WD in lieu of NTA 0
- Deferred Inspection 0
- Parole 0
- Crewmember Refused Landing 0
- WD in lieu of ER 0

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)– **SeaTac:** On 01/07/2020 a female citizen of Bulgaria arrived aboard flight number DL 143. It was determined from statements the subject made under oath that she was unable to overcome the presumption of an intending immigrant. Subject was processed for expedited removal under 212(a)(7)(A)(i)(I) of the INA as amended and transported to NWDC pending her departure flight on DL 142 at 1319 hours on 01/08/20.

**Land Border Wait Times:**

Not applicable.

**Airport Processing/Wait Times:**

- Total number of passengers processed: 6209
- Total number flights is 33 with 5 flights exceeding 60 minutes.
- Number of flights exceeding 120 minutes: 0
- Significant delays (over 180 minutes): 0
- Facial Recognition Biometric Exit flight 250 passengers / 16 minutes

**Passenger Processing – Cruise Ships/Cargo Vessels:**

Total number of passengers: 0

Total number of crew: 47

**Acting Watch Commande (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**United States Customs and Border Protection**

Office of Field Operations

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport | Seattle, WA 98158

Offic (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | Mobil (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) | Fa (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 7:57 AM  
**To:** OFO-FIELD LIAISON  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); ARCHER, RENNE J (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) BROWN, LISA BETH M;  
FASANO, ADELE; FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Seattle Situational Daily Report



**U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office**

**Operational Actions/Significant Encounters  
Reporting for January 7, 2020**

Seattle Field Office current operational posture and/or actions taken within our AOR and/or reporting of significant encounters/incidents related to the U.S. airstrike on Iranian Military Leader. Daily reporting of significant action(s) or encounter(s) will be completed by 10:00 am (EST) to Field Liaison Division.

**Significant Encounters:**

**Total Vetting for the 24 hour period:** (b) (7)(E)

**Land Border Environment:**

- The Management Team will muster all staff on the enhanced measures and heightened vigilance (including out ports) level.
- Muster mandatory reporting requirements prior to admitting and / or refusing a traveler of interest.
- (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- Taskforce Officers will communicate with Area Port Management on relevant intelligence and host agencies heightened alert status if applicable.
- TTRT, PAU and Intel offices will liaise directly with the Seattle Field Office TAU on subjects of concern to ensure timely vetting.

(b) (7)(E)

**Airport Environment:**

- The Management Team will muster all staff on the enhanced measures and heightened vigilance (including out ports) level.
- Muster mandatory reporting requirements prior to admitting and / or refusing a traveler of interest.
- (b) (7)(E)

- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- Taskforce Officers will communicate with Area Port Management on relevant intelligence and host agencies heightened alert status if applicable.
- TTRT, PAU and Intel offices will liaise directly with the Seattle Field Office TAU on subjects of concern to ensure timely vetting.

**Seaport Environment:**

- CBP staff located at the Tacoma and Seattle Seaport have been mustered on the enhanced security posture and to remain vigilant on and off-duty.
- CBP located at JAHOC have been coordinating with the US Coast Guard and local Law Enforcement to increase patrols and visibility is critical infrastructure areas.
- The Northwest Enforcement Team will continue to increase port patrols and its visibility on the terminals.
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
- [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7) (E)

Respectfully,

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
 U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
 Seattle Field Office

Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 9:51 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T; BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** R (b) (7)(E)

ok

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 2:39 PM  
**To:** FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); BROWN, LISA BETH M  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW (b) (7)(E)

Director,

Please see work flow for these individuals that the TAU wishes to instruct the Area Ports with, upon your approval.

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Border Security Coordinator  
U. S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office  
Des (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Ce (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 2:15 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject** (b) (7)(E)

Team,

(b) (7)(E)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(E)

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Supervisor Tactical Analytical Unit

Program Manager Border Security and Facilitation

U. S. Customs and Border Protection

Seattle Field Office

9901 Pacific Highway

Blaine, WA 98230

**Des** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*This message contains information intended only for the addressee named above. If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately.*

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** FW: Meet?  
**Attachments:** Enhanced posture.docx

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Do you have enough information to report to the JIC WC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on behalf of the DFO for dereliction of duty for not realizing the excessive back-up in secondary up 9 hours +, not providing situational awareness to the port leadership of the situation and not calling in additional officers to alleviate the secondary back log. These issues have generated national media attention and numerous congressional inquiries. And other information you may have. DFO would like it ASAP, if you can't do it (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will call. Let me know when done.

I added some additional information you the attached document

Thanks

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 5:33 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Meet?

I want to get ahead of the curve on this and report to joint intake need investigation of dereliction of duty on managers in Blaine. Can have you staff send that to joint intake for me?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** January 7, 2020 at 7:08:23 PM CST  
**To:** "FASANO, ADELE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)"  
**Subject:** Meet?

DFO Fasano,



I will be up in Bellingham Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Can you accommodate a short (30 min) meeting? I want to touch bases with you on the wait time issue from this past weekend that you are already aware of. I expect it to come to OPR for follow up in the next day or two.

Best,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Special Agent in Charge  
CBP OPR Seattle, WA

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Desk (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone.

After receiving a telephonic briefing by CBP Headquarters, Friday afternoon, the Seattle Director of Field Operations directed to the Area Port Director to refer to secondary all Iranian citizen and nationals regardless of current citizenship for enhanced screening by TTRT. Once the DFO was aware of the extensive wait times and delays in secondary, she directed the APDs that the primary officer can admit USCs, US LPRs and Canadian Citizens born in Iran on primary as long as no derogatory information is present as well as to continue to refer Iranian non-immigrant (b) (7)(E) for additional questioning and screening.

This was a normally high volume holiday/weekend traffic weekend. There were a high volume of I-94 interviews and other secondary referrals (which could average 2-4 hours processing time). Processing time includes the time spent in line waiting for secondary inspection with waits up to one to two hours before encountering the secondary officer. Depending on the type of secondary inspection, additional hours can be added to the traveler's inspection. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel.

Other variables that may have contributed to extended wait times were port not staffing to workload, local events on either side, etc. It appears that the port didn't adequately staff the workload on primary and secondary inspection areas:

(b) (7)(E)

Staffing for primary and secondary inspections:

(b) (7) (E)

The port only staff (b) (7)(E) for the evening and midnight shifts supporting both Blaine Ports (Peace Arch and Pacific Highway), which caused lengthy delays in secondary. The Watch Commanders on duty failed to recognize the situational awareness of the lengthy delays and backlog in secondary. They took no action to increase the staffing of the TTRT or elevate to an Assistant Port Director or the Area Port Director.

Secondary inspections:

The two Blaine ports (Peace Arch and Pacific Highway) had a total of 991 referrals on January 4. These secondary referrals were for customs, immigration, complex, I-94, and agriculture inspections. Of those 991 referrals, 148 referrals were processed for the enhanced measures operation.

Once the single (b) (7)(E) interviewed an individual, they would then pass the information on to TAU an (b) (7)(E).

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:29 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** RE: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

Thanks, sorry about this but I guess if we have one good solid response we can then use it for future inquiries.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Supervisory CBP Officer  
Field Liaison Division  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 2.3A-17  
Washington, DC 20229  
Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
E-Mail: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

Great, thank you 😊

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 6:16 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

Can you do 11 because it has be reviewed and submitted to EAC's office by noon.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Supervisory CBP Officer  
Field Liaison Division  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 2.3A-17  
Washington, DC 20229  
Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
E-Mail: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:13 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

can we have 1200 EST instead of 0800 EST. That is 0500 in the morning Monday and basically means we have 2 days to do this...Please ☺

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > **On Behalf Of** OFO-FIELD LIAISON  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 6:11 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] >; OFO-FIELD LIAISO [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; FASANO, ADELE  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ; BROWN, LISA BETH [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

Good Morning,

Per our conversation as well as your conversation with DX [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) Seattle FO will submit the response to this congressional inquiry along with requested pertinent documentation by January 13, 2020 by 0800 hours (EST) for Ops management review.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call.

Thank you,

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Supervisory CBP Officer  
Field Liaison Division  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 2.3A-17  
Washington, DC 20229  
Office: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
E-Mail: [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



*This document and any attachment(s) may contain restricted, sensitive, and/or law enforcement-sensitive information belonging to the U.S. Government. It is not for release, review, retransmission, dissemination, or use by anyone other than the intended recipient.*

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**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 8:49 AM  
**To:** OFO-TASKING [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) ; OFO-FIELD LIAISO [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >  
**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED]

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

FLD,

Please see attached DHS Tier 1 and prepare a response as well as a cover memo for C1 signature. Responses are due back to OFO-Tasking NLT 12PM January 13, 2020. Notification is required if you will be unable to meet the deadline, thus placing this DHS Tier 1 on OES' Overdue report to the Commissioner.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Management and Program Analyst  
Office of Field Operations  
Business Operations and Communications Division

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP000048



CBP0000049

**CBP000050**

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**Subject:** Meeting on Weakened Processing of Iranian Nationals  
**Location:** DFO's Office  
  
**Start:** Thu 1/9/2020 1:30 PM  
**End:** Thu 1/9/2020 2:30 PM  
  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
  
**Meeting Status:** Accepted  
  
**Organizer:** FASANO, ADELE  
**Required Attendees:** Michael Freeman; WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**This meeting is mandatory** if it falls on your day off, please adjust your schedule to attend.

Upon arrival, please check in with Staff Assistan (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) in room 219.

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 11:11 AM  
**To:** BLAINE-CMD CNTR AOR LOOKOUT  
**Subject:** FW: ~~(U//FOUO)~~ Iranian Threat Assessment  
**Attachments:** Iranian Threat Assessment.pdf; 20200107 - EAC Daily Operations Report.docx



(U) Iranian President Response  
NBC



(U) Reporting Notice: This product was prepared by U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Office of Intelligence.

## (U) Background

~~(U//FOUO)~~ On 2 January, the U.S. military confirmed that it conducted a strike on Iranian Major General Qassim Suleimani at the Baghdad airport. In the strike, the United States also killed the head of the Iraqi state sponsored Popular Mobilization Front (PMF), Abu Mahdi al Muhandis, and several other senior pro Iran figures in Iraq. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei stated that a "harsh retaliation is waiting for the criminals whose filthy hands spilled his blood" while Iran's President also vowed revenge.

## (U) Executive Summary

~~(S)~~ Tensions between the Government of Iran and the United States have been escalating since 2018 when the United States re imposed economic sanctions against the Government of Iran for violations of their nuclear agreement and the April 2019 designation of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard as a foreign terrorist organization. Tensions continued to increase with Iran suspected of targeting oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman and the Persian Gulf, and with the 20 June 2019 Iranian shoot down of a U.S. surveillance drone.<sup>[i]</sup> These tensions recently escalated into violence.<sup>[ii]</sup> Iran likely played a pivotal role in the strikes against Saudi Arabian oil fields in 2019 as well as a 27 December rocket attack in Kirkuk that killed an American contractor, despite

Iranian backed proxies claiming credit.<sup>[iii]</sup> The 2 January drone strike at Baghdad airport removed a key Iranian military leader and has been the catalyst for Iranian government threats of an immediate and intense response.

## (U) Timeline of Events

~~(U//FOUO)~~ On 27 December 2019, the Iranian backed militia Kataib Hizballah (KH) reportedly conducted a rocket attack near the Iraqi city of Kirkuk, killing an American contractor and wounding several American and Iraqi personnel. In response, the United States conducted air strikes on three sites in Iraq and two in Syria linked to KH, reportedly killing 25 members of the group. Following the strikes, on 31 December, Iranian backed Iraqi KH supporters stormed the U.S. embassy in Baghdad. The violence escalated with members attempting to enter the embassy, starting fires and damaging the outside and a reception area of the embassy. On 2 January, the United States responded with a strike on a convoy outside Baghdad airport, killing Major General Qassim Suleimani, Abu Mahdi al Muhandis, and several other senior pro Iran figures in Iraq.<sup>[iv],[v]</sup>

~~(U//FOUO)~~ Following the death of Suleimani, Iran announced that Brigadier General Esmail Qaani, who has served as Suleimani's deputy commander since 1997, was named the new overall commander of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC QF) Quds Force. Qaani joined the IRGC QF in 1980 and served in the 1980 88 war with Iraq. Qaani has been described by Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as one of the "most decorated commanders" of the Guards during the 1980 88 Iran Iraq war.<sup>[vi],[vii]</sup>

~~(U//FOUO)~~ On 5 January, Iraqi lawmakers approved a resolution asking the Iraqi government to end the agreement under which Washington sent forces more than four years ago to help fight the Islamic State of Iraq and ash Sham (ISIS). The bill is nonbinding and subject to approval by the Iraqi government; however, the resolution has the backing of the outgoing prime minister. Additionally, on 5 January, Iran said it would fully withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). In a government statement, Iran noted that its nuclear program will have no limitations on its uranium enrichment, production and research..<sup>[viii],[ix]</sup>

## (U) Key Findings

- ~~(U//FOUO)~~ [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED].
- ~~(U//FOUO)~~ [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED].
- ~~(U//LES)~~ [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED].

## (U) Iranian Threats to U.S. Interests

~~(U//FOUO)~~ Iranian leaders have vowed revenge against the United States for the death of Suleimani, which will likely increase geopolitical escalation and conflict between the U.S. and Iran, likely further destabilizing the region. In April 2019, IRGC QF was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) making it the first time the U.S. Department of State has labeled a state institution as a FTO. Iran has promised "harsh revenge" and

threatened to respond on American soil, with an Iranian Member of Parliament stating that Iran could attack the White House directly.<sup>[x]</sup>

(U) During an open session of parliament in Tehran, on 5 January, Iranian Parliament Member Abolfazl Abutorabi stated that the killing of Suleimani is a “declaration of war” and Iran’s ambassador to the United Nations stated that the response for a military action is military action. Potential targets for Iran would likely come from rocket attacks against U.S. bases or allies in the region or sabotaging oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz. Additionally, it could embark on a sustained campaign of cyber warfare or target American citizens and troops abroad near embassies and consulates.<sup>[xi]</sup>

(U) As of 5 January, the Department of Homeland Security stated that there were no specific, credible threats against the homeland; however, Iran and its proxies, including Hizballah, have shown an intent and capability to conduct attacks in the homeland. DHS has stated that Iran has a robust cyber program and is able to execute cyber attacks against the United States, to include temporarily disrupting critical infrastructure.<sup>[xii],[xiii],[xiv],[xv],[xvi]</sup>

## **(U) Iranian-Backed Proxies**

~~(U//LES)~~ The IRGC QF maintains influence throughout the Middle East by working with allied groups that allow the group that ability to present an asymmetrical threat to traditional military capabilities utilized by the U.S. and its regional allies. Those partners include Shia militias operating in the region such as the Lebanese Hizballah (LH) and the Houthi rebels in Yemen.<sup>[xvii]</sup> Iranian military officials have suggested that Iran’s regional proxies, rather than Iran itself, will be charged with responding to the death of Suleimani.<sup>[xviii]</sup> Iranian proxies have been responsible for targeting U.S. interests in the region to include oil infrastructure, military bases and shipping lanes. In September 2019, Houthi rebels in Yemen claimed responsibility for a major attack on Saudi oil facilities and KH have reportedly carried out a string of rocket attacks against Iraqi military bases where U.S. troops are located as well U.S. embassies in Iraq. Additionally, Iranian backed KH has warned Iraqi security forces to stay away from US bases in Iraq starting on 5 January.<sup>[xix],[xx],[xxi]</sup>

~~(U//FOUO)~~ LH, Iran’s most significant non state partner, has expanded its influence in Latin America, networking with organized crime and other violent groups. Iran has historically provided weapons, training, and financial support to LH for facilitating activities abroad. Iran remains intent on using and expanding its global reach by utilizing its proxy forces to potentially conduct attacks and create a destabilizing effect on Western interests. A DHS review of 63 disrupted terrorist operations or attacks from 2012 2018 across 26 countries highlights the broad reach of Iranian efforts, to include efforts within the United States.<sup>[xxii],[xxiii],[xxiv]</sup>

- (U) On 9 July 2019, a New Jersey based individual who authorities believe was working on behalf of LH’s Islamic Jihad Organization was arrested on terrorism charges and is suspected of conducting surveillance of landmarks including the Statue of Liberty, the United Nations, the White House, and Boston’s Fenway Park.<sup>[xxv]</sup>
- (U) In May 2019, a U.S. Federal Court convicted Ali Mohamad Kourani<sup>USPER</sup> of covertly providing material support for Hizballah’s Islamic Jihad Organization (IJO). Kourani, a naturalized U.S. citizen, was recruited, trained, and deployed by IJO to procure weapons and gather intelligence on potential U.S. targets for future Hizballah terrorist attacks. Kourani surveilled JFK Airport and law enforcement facilities in New York City.<sup>[xxvi]</sup>



- (U) In 2017, two men were arrested in New York and Michigan on charges related to their alleged activities on behalf of Hizballah. Their activities included receiving military style training, conducting surveillance on potential targets in America, and assessing vulnerabilities of the Panama Canal and ships in the canal.<sup>[xxvii]</sup>



(U//FOUO) Attacks and Disrupted Operations Linked to Hizballah or Iran  
CBP

**(U) Iranian Proxy Encounters at POEs**

(b) (7)(E)

Iran has historically provided weapons, training, and financial support to LH and the IRGC Qods Force—Iran’s primary arm for facilitating terrorist activities abroad. Since the United States designated IRGC as a terrorist organization in April 2019, the Iranian regime has looked for ways to exploit vulnerabilities and undermine U.S. interests not only abroad but also along the U.S. borders (b) (7)(E)

[Redacted text block]

(b) (7) (E)





# Suspicious Activity Reporting Indicators and Behaviors

Tools for  
Analysts and  
Investigators

Behaviors

Descriptions

## Defined Criminal Activity and Potential Terrorism Nexus Activity

<b>Breach/Attempted Intrusion</b>	Unauthorized personnel attempting to enter or actually entering a restricted area, secured protected site, or nonpublic area. Impersonation of authorized personnel (e.g., police/security officers, janitor, or other personnel).
<b>Misrepresentation</b>	Presenting false information or misusing insignia, documents, and/or identification to misrepresent one's affiliation as a means of concealing possible illegal activity.
<b>Theft/Loss/Diversion</b>	Stealing or diverting something associated with a facility/infrastructure or secured protected site (e.g., badges, uniforms, identification, emergency vehicles, technology, or documents (classified or unclassified)), which are proprietary to the facility/infrastructure or secured protected site.
<b>Sabotage/Tampering/Vandalism</b>	Damaging, manipulating, defacing, or destroying part of a facility/infrastructure or secured protected site.
<b>Cyberattack</b>	Compromising or attempting to compromise or disrupt an organization's information technology infrastructure.
<b>Expressed or Implied Threat</b>	Communicating a spoken or written threat to commit a crime that will result in death or bodily injury to another person or persons or to damage or compromise a facility/infrastructure or secured protected site.
<b>Aviation Activity</b>	Learning to operate, or operating an aircraft, or interfering with the operation of an aircraft in a manner that poses a threat of harm to people or property and that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person. Such activity may or may not be a violation of Federal Aviation Regulations.

## Potential Criminal or Non-Criminal Activities Requiring Additional Information During Vetting

*Note: When the behavior describes activities that are not inherently criminal and may be constitutionally protected, the vetting agency should carefully assess the information and gather as much additional information as necessary to document facts and circumstances that clearly support documenting the information as an ISE-SAR.*

<b>Eliciting Information</b>	Questioning individuals or otherwise soliciting information at a level beyond mere curiosity about a public or private event or particular facets of a facility's or building's purpose, operations, security procedures, etc., in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.
<b>Testing or Probing of Security</b>	Deliberate interactions with, or challenges to, installations, personnel, or systems that reveal physical, personnel, or cybersecurity capabilities in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.
<b>Recruiting/Financing</b>	Providing direct financial support to operations teams and contacts or building operations teams and contacts; compiling personnel data, banking data, or travel data in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.
<b>Photography</b>	Taking pictures or video of persons, facilities, buildings, or infrastructure in an unusual or surreptitious manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person. Examples include taking pictures or video of infrequently used access points, the superstructure of a bridge, personnel performing security functions (e.g., patrols, badge/vehicle checking), security-related equipment (e.g., perimeter fencing, security cameras), etc.
<b>Observation/Surveillance</b>	Demonstrating unusual or prolonged interest in facilities, buildings, or infrastructure beyond mere casual (e.g., tourists) or professional (e.g., engineers) interest and in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person. Examples include observation through binoculars, taking notes, attempting to mark off or measure distances, etc.
<b>Materials Acquisition/Storage</b>	Acquisition and/or storage of unusual quantities of materials such as cell phones, pagers, radio control toy servos or controllers; fuel, chemicals, or toxic materials; and timers or other triggering devices, in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.
<b>Acquisition of Expertise</b>	Attempts to obtain or conduct training or otherwise obtain knowledge or skills in security concepts, military weapons or tactics, or other unusual capabilities in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.
<b>Weapons Collection/Discovery</b>	Collection or discovery of unusual amounts or types of weapons, including explosives, chemicals, and other destructive materials, or evidence, detonations or other residue, wounds, or chemical burns, that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.
<b>Sector-Specific Incident</b>	Actions associated with a characteristic of unique concern to specific sectors (e.g., the public health sector), with regard to their personnel, facilities, systems, or functions in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.



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(U) US person information has been minimized. Should you require the minimized US person information on weekends or after normal weekday hours during exigent and time sensitive circumstances, contact the (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)

For all other inquiries, please contact the

(b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)

**(U) Feedback:** For general comments or questions related to the dissemination of this document, please e-mail CETD at (b) (7)(E)

[i] ABC | 3 January 2020 | (U) World Braces for 'dramatic escalation' in tensions after key Iranian general killed (U) | (U) | <https://abcnews.go.com/International/world-braces-dramatic-escalation-tensions-key-iranian-general/story?id=68051827>

[ii] USA Today | 3 January 2020 | (U) Timeline: How tensions escalated with Iran since Trump withdrew US from nuclear deal | (U) | (U) | <https://www.usatoday.com/in-depth/news/2020/01/03/us-iran-conflict-since-nuclear-deal/2803223001/>

[iii] ABC | 3 January 2020 | (U) World Braces for 'dramatic escalation' in tensions after key Iranian general killed (U) | (U) | <https://abcnews.go.com/International/world-braces-dramatic-escalation-tensions-key-iranian-general/story?id=68051827>

[iv] NPR | 4 January 2020 | (U) Timeline: How the U.S. Came to Strike and Kill a Top Iranian General | (U) | (U) | <https://www.npr.org/2020/01/04/793364307/timeline-how-the-u-s-came-to-strike-and-kill-a-top-iranian-general>

[v] [Evening Standard | 4 January 2020 | (U) Qasem Soleimani: Timeline of Events Leading to US Killing of Iranian General | (U) | (U) | <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/qasem-soleimani-airstrike-timeline-iran-iraq-a4326311.html>

[vi] [FOX | 3 January 2020 | (U) Replacement Named for Gen. Qassem Soleimani | (U) | (U) | <https://www.foxnews.com/world/irans-supreme-leader-qassem-soleimani-replacement>

[vii] [Haaretz | 5 January 2020 | (U) Iran Has Already Replaced Soleimani, Here is Everything we Know About Esmail Ghaani | (U) | (U) | <https://www.haaretz.com/middle-east-news/iran/iran-has-already-replaced-soleimani-here-is-everything-we-know-about-esmail-ghaani-1.8353694>

[viii] [The New York Times | 5 January 2020 | (U) Iraq Calls for Expulsion of US Troops over Deadly Airstrike | (U) | (U) | <https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2020/01/05/world/middleeast/ap-ml-iraq-us.html>

[ix] [Newsweek | 5 January 2019 | (U) Iran Fully Withdraws from Nuclear Deal and Criticizes European Response to Soleimani's Killing | (U) | (U) | <https://www.newsweek.com/iran-fully-withdraws-nuclear-deal-criticizes-european-response-soleimanis-killing-1480475>

[x] The Epoch Times | 5 January 2020 | (U) Iran to Target US 'Military Sites', White Following General's Death: Officials | (U) | (U) | [https://www.theepochtimes.com/top-iranian-general-issues-stark-warning-to-us-trump-america-started-the-war\\_3194185.html](https://www.theepochtimes.com/top-iranian-general-issues-stark-warning-to-us-trump-america-started-the-war_3194185.html)

[xi] [USA TODAY | 4 January 2020 | (U) Iran Official on Soleimani Killing: 'The Response for Military Action is Military Action' | (U) | (U) | <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/01/04/iran-iraq-united-states-qasem-soleimani-trump/2804237001/>

[xii] [White House | 8 April 2019 | (U) Statement from the President on the Designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a Foreign Terrorist Organization | (U) | (U) | <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-designation-islamic-revolutionary-guard-corps-foreign-terrorist-organization/>

[xiii] DHS | 4 January 2020 | (U) National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin | (U) | (U) | [https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/20\\_0104\\_ntas\\_bulletin.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/20_0104_ntas_bulletin.pdf)

[xiv] [FOX | 5 January 2020 | (U) Iranian MP Threatens to 'Attack the White House' | (U) | (U) | <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/iranian-mp-threatens-to-attack-the-white-house-report>

[xv] [USA Today | 4 January 2020 | (U) Iran Official on Soleimani Killing: 'The Response for a Military Action is Military Action' | (U) | (U) | <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/01/04/iran-iraq-united-states-qasem-soleimani-trump/2804237001/>

[xvi] [The New York Times | 3 January 2020 | (U) Homeland Security Sees 'No Specific, Credible Threat' From Iran, but Warns of Cyberattacks | (U) | (U) | <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/03/us/politics/homeland-security-iran-threat.html>

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[xvii] The Washington Institute | 17 April 2018 | (U) Examining Iran's Global Terrorism Network | (U) | (U) | <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/view/examining-irans-global-terrorism-network>

[xviii] [Washington Post | 4 January 2020 | (U) Iran has Vowed Revenge Against the U.S. But it Seems to be in No Hurry | (U) | (U) | [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\\_east/iran-has-vowed-revenge-against-the-us-but-it-seems-to-be-in-no-hurry/2020/01/04/150283e8-2e62-11ea-bffe-020c88b3f120\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/iran-has-vowed-revenge-against-the-us-but-it-seems-to-be-in-no-hurry/2020/01/04/150283e8-2e62-11ea-bffe-020c88b3f120_story.html)

[xix] Yahoo | 18 November 2019 | (U) Saudi-led coalition says Yemeni rebels hijacked vessel | (U) | (U) | <https://news.yahoo.com/saudi-led-coalition-says-yemeni-163021117.html>

[xx] The United States Institute of Peace | 16 September 2019 | (U) Timeline of Houthi Attacks on Saudi Arabia | (U) | (U) | <https://iranprimer.usip.org/blog/2019/sep/16/timeline-houthi-attacks-saudi-arabia>

[xxi] The Guardian | 14 September 2019 | (U) Major Saudi Arabia oil facilities hit by Houthi drone strikes | (U) | (U) | <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/14/major-saudi-arabia-oil-facilities-hit-by-drone-strikes>

[xxii] [The Washington Post | 4 January 2020 | (U) Iran Has Vowed Revenge Against the U.S. but it Seems to be in No Hurry | (U) | (U) | [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\\_east/iran-has-vowed-revenge-against-the-us-but-it-seems-to-be-in-no-hurry/2020/01/04/150283e8-2e62-11ea-bffe-020c88b3f120\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/iran-has-vowed-revenge-against-the-us-but-it-seems-to-be-in-no-hurry/2020/01/04/150283e8-2e62-11ea-bffe-020c88b3f120_story.html)]

[xxiii] [The Washington Post | (U) Iran has Invested in Allies and Proxies Across the Middle East. Here's Where they Stand After Soleimani's Death | (U) | (U) | <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/01/03/iran-has-invested-allies-proxies-across-middle-east-heres-where-they-stand-after-soleimanis-death/>]

[xxiv] [PBS | 4 January 2020 | (U) Iran General Steps out of Soleimani's Shadow to Lead Proxies | (U) | (U) | <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/iran-general-steps-out-of-soleimanis-shadow-to-lead-proxies>]

[xxv] NBC | 19 September 2019 | (U) Hezbollah plot terror attacks on U.S. landmarks | (U) | (U) | <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/new-jersey-man-charged-helping-hezbollah-plot-terror-attacks-u-n1056716>

[xxvi] (U) | DOJ | 19-157 | 16 May 2019 | Ali Kourani Convicted In Manhattan Federal Court For Covert Terrorist Activities On Behalf Of Hizballah's Islamic Jihad Organization | Extracted information is U | Overall document classification is U

[xxvii] DOJ | 8 June 2017 | (U) Two Men Arrested for Terrorist Activities on Behalf of Hizballah's Islamic Jihad Organization | (U) | (U) | <https://www.iustice.gov/opa/pr/two-men-arrested-terrorist-activities-behalf-hizballahs-islamic-ijihad-organization>

(b) (7)(E)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 12:55 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** RE: Heighten Awareness messaging to officers  
**Attachments:** FW: Heightened Awareness; FW: Awaiting updated guidance; Clarification on TAU Vetting; Clarification of Guidance

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

As requested. Attached are the emails messaging that I am aware of that went out. I have ask my staff if I have missed any and will send when received.

Can you please provide me a paragraph on what messaging was provided to the officers after the first DFO conference call Friday morning?

- **Face to Face Muster notes:**

- We are in a state of heightened vigilance.
- The Port Directors have been provided a briefing as to the gravity of the aforementioned situation, which is equivalent to a foreign power killing a member of the presidential cabinet
- All encounters with non-immigrants from areas of national concern should be highly scrutinized
- We are assigning officers to man all ports 24X7
- We are working with our law enforcement counterparts to assist in this effort
- Be prepared to initiate outbound operations in the event of a targeted attack on U.S. soil
- (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- Wear body armor
- Wear cover jacket when traveling to and from work
- Report negative contact with individuals posing a threat to CBP personnel or property to the APD through (b) (7)(E).
- Request assistance immediately when dealing with unruly passenger (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- Increase trunk checks and NII scans
- Conduct routine patrols around the FIS
- Maintain the highest levels of professionalism, impartiality, and courtesy to the traveling public.

- **Enforcement Teams**

- (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- JTTF TFO will provide any Intelligence updates upon receipt
- BEST TFO will assist in port operations
- (b) (7)(E)

Was it communicated orally or in written format?

- Orally to the officers and orally, as well as in writing to the managers

What was the messaging to the officers?

- See above

Then, on Sunday at 1245, how was this change communicated (orally or written) and what was messaged?

- This was communicated in Writing and during face to face musters:
- All, The Seattle Field Office has updated the guidance regarding the ongoing (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED].
  1. When inspecting USCs, US LPRs or Canadian Citizens, if primary officer is satisfied that no derogatory information is present, they can admit on primary
  2. (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED] ...
  3. For this operation, CBP will not target by nationality. The concern is the Iranian government using its Islamic Revolutionary Guard, their military and special forces or Hezbollah operatives using recruits as sympathizers, financiers, or operatives to wage asymmetric warfare or stage an attack in the United States (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED]. Due to mandatory military conscription in Iran, many persons may have served in the Iranian military.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
*Office:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cellular:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Fax:* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 8:21 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Heighten Awareness messaging to officers

APD Williams,

Can you please provide me a paragraph on what messaging was provided to the officers after the first DFO conference call Friday morning?

Was it communicated orally or in written format?

What was the messaging to the officers?

Then, on Sunday at 1245, how was this change communicated (orally or written) and what was messaged?

Sincerely,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) [REDACTED]  
*Supervisory Program Manager*  
*Border Security and Facilitation*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*Seattle Field Office*

*Office* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*Cell* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 3:13 AM  
**To:** BLAINE-OFO SUPERVISORS  
**Cc:** BLAINE-OFO WATCH COMMANDERS; BLAINE-OFO CHIEFS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) LYNDEN OFO SUPERVISORS; SUMAS OFO SUPERVISORS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Clarification of Guidance

Supervisors,

Please review the following information for worksheets and complete inspections so that TTRT can review and forward to TAU for the final review.

It remains important to follow these steps so that we provide as nearly complete a product as possible for TAU to work on.

For the Sumas and Oroville AORs, please review and continue to follow your current forwarding procedures.

At this point we are having the Officers complete as much research as possible on th (b) (7)(E) and complete a synopsis for review by the Shift Supervisor.

This information is then forwarded to AEU to review followed by TTRT review.

Prior to sending th (b) (7)(E) to the TAU, we must ensure that the following is performed:

1. Conduct a cursor (b) (7)(E), but ensure that th (b) (7)(E) is completed and reviewed by a supervisor before sending it over to TTRT.
  - a. Th (b) (7)(E) must be completed fully, providing the 5Ws and ensuring that a synopsis of the inspection is included, i.e (b) (7)(E)
  - b. Annotate all CBP system queries performed or if there are any positive or negative results from the queries.
2. **Do not:**
  - a. Refe (b) (7)(E) directly to the TAU so that the TAU can perform the research.
  - b. Do not leave inspectional questions unanswered, requiring TTRT or TAU to kick th (b) (7)(E) back for answers.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Watch Commander  
Passenger/Emergency Management  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This message contains information intended only for the addressee named above. If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately.



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**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 4:44 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] BLAINE-OFO SUPERVISORS; OROVILLE AOR OFO AREA MGT; SUMAS OFO SUPERVISORS; LYNDEN OFO SUPERVISORS  
**Subject:** FW: Awaiting updated guidance

Managers,

As you have been advised, the SFO has updated the guidance fo [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E). With that, it is important that you provided a high level of oversight to ensure that officers are not targeting by nationality. If derogatory information is identified during the primary or secondary inspection, those aliens should be referred and the guidance followed. Please ensure that the guidance is mustered right away.

If any secondary examination exceeds 2 hours, please contact me directly via my cellular.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To:** ANACORTES OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; BELLINGHAM OFO GML [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; BLAINE-OFO AREA MG [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; BLAINE-OFO SUPERVISOR [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; BLAINE-OFO TECHS-AID [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; BLAINE-OFO UNIFORME [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; DANVILLE-FERRY OFO ALL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; FRIDAY HARBOR-ROCHE HARBOR OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; FRONTIER-BOUNDARY OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; LAURIER OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; LYNDEN OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; METALINE FALLS OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; OROVILLE-NIGHTHAWK OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >; SUMAS OFO AL [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) >  
**Subject:** Awaiting updated guidance

All,

The Seattle Field Office has updated the guidance regarding the ongoin [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E).

1. When inspecting USCs, US LPRs or Canadian Citizens, if primary officer is satisfied that no derogatory information is present, they can admit on primary
2. [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
3. For this operation, CBP will not target by nationality. The concern is the Iranian government using its Islamic Revolutionary Guard, their military and special forces or Hezbollah operatives using recruits as sympathizers, financiers, or operatives to wage asymmetric warfare or stage an attack in the United States [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E). Due to mandatory military conscription in Iran, many persons may have served in the Iranian military.

***Kenneth Williams***  
***Area Port Director***  
***U.S. Customs and Border Protection***  
***9901 Pacific Highway***  
***Blaine, WA 98230***  
***Office:*** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
***Cellular:*** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
***Fax:*** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 11:04 AM  
**To:** SFO AP Blaine Leadership; BLAINE-OFO WATCH COMMANDERS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Heightened Awareness

All,

Here is the email from (A)Chie (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to our supervisors, that I mentioned in yesterday's staff meeting.

Thank you

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
US Customs & Border Protection  
Watch Commander  
Blaine, WA  
Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 3, 2020 11:45 AM  
**To:** BLAINE-OFO SUPERVISOR (b) (7)(E)  
**Cc:** BLAINE-OFO WATCH COMMANDER (b) (7)(E) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Subject:** Heightened Awareness

Blaine Supervisors,

APD Williams held a meeting this morning to discuss concerns and preventative measures following the U.S. airstrike responsible for the death of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani. Retaliation for the airstrike is expected to be forthcoming. The following preventative measures have been put into place until further notice;

**24 Hour Staffing at All Ports of Entry**

Officers will staff the outer ports that are normally left unmanned after closing. The outer ports will work on getting cooperation with local OBP to supplement their staffing.

**Routine Security Patrols around the Port of Entry**

Routine security patrols around the port of entry will be conducted to screen for persons or items out of the ordinary.

**Officers Will Work in Pairs**

When conducting security patrols, a minimum of two officers shall conduct the patrol. Midnight supervisor will assign two officers to the primary lane for security/backup concerns.

**Increased Vehicle Check**

Officers are encouraged to increase the frequency of vehicle hood/trunk checks and vehicle interior on primary.

**100% VPC Screening of All Travelers Arriving at Primary**

All arriving travelers will be screened utilizing Vehicle Primary Client when they arrive at a primary inspection booth.

**Body Armor**

Wearing body armor is encouraged, but not mandatory at this given time.

**(b) (7)(E) Officers**

A TTRT officer will be present at the port of entry 24/7 to assist in inspections

**(b) (7)(E)**

**Supervisors at Primary Lanes**

Shift supervisors will monitor officers primary inspections to ensure officers are engaged in focused, relevant inspections

**A-TCET**

A-TCET officers have been instructed to shift their focus to inbound vehicles to the United States. A-TCET officers will be working the pre-primary areas at the ports of entry.

**BCC Cameras/Notifications**

If a suspicious person or inspection is noted, The Blaine Command Center will be notified to ensure that person/inspection is captured on video.

**Derogatory Inspection** (b) (7)(E)

APD Williams wishes to be notified of any derogatory inspections completed on persons from countries of concern. APD Williams should be notified using the chain of command.

**Cover Jackets**

Officers are encouraged to utilize cover jackets when transiting to and from work so as not to draw undue attention to themselves as a target of opportunity.

V/R


(A) Chief CBP Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Peace Arch Port of Entry

Blaine, WA

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Office of Field Operations

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) 

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 12:57 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** Media contacts  
**Attachments:** FW: A reporter reached out; FW: Alleged Media Member Contacting CBPO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Border Security,

FYSA. Be advised that our officers are starting to receive direct media contact. We have advised and they have acknowledged that they are not to respond.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*  
**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 9:23 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); BLAINE-OFO WATCH  
COMMANDERS  
**Subject:** FW: Alleged Media Member Contacting CBPO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

APD Williams,

Please see the documentation below concerning a Text received by CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) concerning a request for an interview by a potential Miami-based media representative.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Watch Commander  
Passenger/Emergency Management  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This message contains information intended only for the addressee named above. If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately.

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:11 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Alleged Media Member Contacting CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

W (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) called to report to SCBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) that someone claiming to be a reporter name (b) (6) sent him a text message (from a Florida phone number), trying to set up an interview (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that he "googled" that name and the actual person by that name is a reporter with the Miami Herald, but it is unknown if they were who they claimed to be. The person was asking for th (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) who used to work for the State Attorney's Office. Both CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that he worked in IT and his dad worked as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) so he wasn't sure if he was attempting to contact him or his dad. The subject on the phone did not say what they wanted to know about, but asked to set up a phone interview for later. CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) has not spoken to this person on the phone, but he was suspicious that a big time reporter would be trying to contact him, given the recent Border events involving Iranian citizens. CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that the same person sent his mother the same message. His mother never worked for the Attorney's Office.

CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was advised not to share any information about himself, it is possible that this is unrelated to CBP activity, but regardless, he needs to be careful for his and his family's welfare. He was advised that inquiries about CBP are to be directed to the appropriate office, but that because he does not want to tell a stranger that he works for CBP, it would be better to not share any information.

The phone number CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was contacted from is (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Passenger Processing Chief  
Peace Arch P.O.E.  
Blaine, WA 98230  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

***Leaders/Managers should ask themselves this question:  
“If my position, title, role, or formal authority were removed, would the people that I’m leading still gladly follow me?”***

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 11:51 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Subject:** FW: A reporter reached out

FYSA

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Assistant Area Port Director  
Tactical Operations  
Blaine, Washington  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (D)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 8:19 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** A reporter reached out

I have no intention of replying to this but thought I should let my chain know.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*U.S. Customs & Border Protection*  
*CBP Officer*  
*Primary Less Lethal Instructor*  
*Firearms Instructor*  
*Active Shooter Instructor*  
*Blaine, WA*  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) office  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) cell

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*“There is no such thing as advanced combat skills, only perfect execution of the fundamentals under stress.”*

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 6:32 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Reuters

----- Forwarded message -----

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 7, 2020 at 2:26 PM



Subject: Reuters

To [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

H [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

I'm a reporter with Reuters in Washington, DC. I'm looking into what happened with the Iranian Americans who tried to enter the US at the Blaine POE over the weekend. Are you able to discuss on background? (Just as "a CBP official" and not using your name)? If so, my cell i [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Best,

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Reply

Not interested

 [View \[REDACTED\] \(b\) \(6\), \(b\) \(7\)\(C\) LinkedIn profile](#)

You can respond to Ted by replying to this email

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Help](#)

This email was intended for [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Instructor at U.S. Customs and Border Protection).  
[Learn why we included this.](#)



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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Media contacts  
**Attachments:** FW: A reporter reached out; FW: Alleged Media Member Contacting CBPO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FYI

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:57 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** BROWN, LISA BETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Media contacts

Border Security,

FYSA. Be advised that our officers are starting to receive direct media contact. We have advised and they have acknowledged that they are not to respond.

*Kenneth Williams*  
*Area Port Director*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*9901 Pacific Highway*  
*Blaine, WA 98230*

**Office:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Cellular:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Fax:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 9:23 PM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNETH  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); BLAINE-OFO WATCH  
COMMANDERS  
**Subject:** FW: Alleged Media Member Contacting CBPO (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

APD Williams,

Please see the documentation below concerning a Text received by CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) concerning a request for an interview by a potential Miami-based media representative.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Watch Commander  
Passenger/Emergency Management  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

This message contains information intended only for the addressee named above. If you believe you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately.

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:11 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Alleged Media Member Contacting CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

W (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) called to report to SCBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) that someone claiming to be a reporter name (b) (6) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), sent him a text message (from a Florida phone number), trying to set up an interview (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that he "googled" that name and the actual person by that name is a reporter with the Miami Herald, but it is unknown if they were who they claimed to be. The person was asking for th (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) who used to work for the State Attorney's Office. Both CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) used to work for the (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that he worked in IT and his dad worked a (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), so he wasn't sure if he was attempting to contact him or his dad. The subject on the phone did not say what they wanted to know about, but asked to set up a phone interview for later. CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) has not spoken to this person on the phone, but he was suspicious that a big time reporter would be trying to contact him, given the recent Border events involving Iranian citizens. CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) stated that the same person sent his mother the same message. His mother never worked for the Attorney's Office.

CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was advised not to share any information about himself, it is possible that this is unrelated to CBP activity, but regardless, he needs to be careful for his and his family's welfare. He was advised that inquiries about CBP are to be directed to the appropriate office, but that because he does not want to tell a stranger that he works for CBP, it would be better to not share any information.

The phone number CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was contacted from i (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Respectfully,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Passenger Processing Chief

Peace Arch P.O.E.

Blaine, WA 98230

Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*Leaders/Managers should ask themselves this question:*

*“If my position, title, role, or formal authority were removed, would the people that I’m leading still gladly follow me?”*

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 1:28 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Subject:** For your review  
**Attachments:** Heightened Vigilance IP.docx; HIGH THREAT ALERT (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) form for Iran Threat and UPDATED GUIDANCE On BEST PRACTICES in the FIELD

Boss,

For your review.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Supervisory Program Manager*  
*Border Security and Facilitation*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*Seattle Field Office*  
*Office* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cell* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBP000031

CBP000040

CBP000041



CBP000042



U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office of Field Operations  
Tactical Analytical Unit - Seattle Field Office



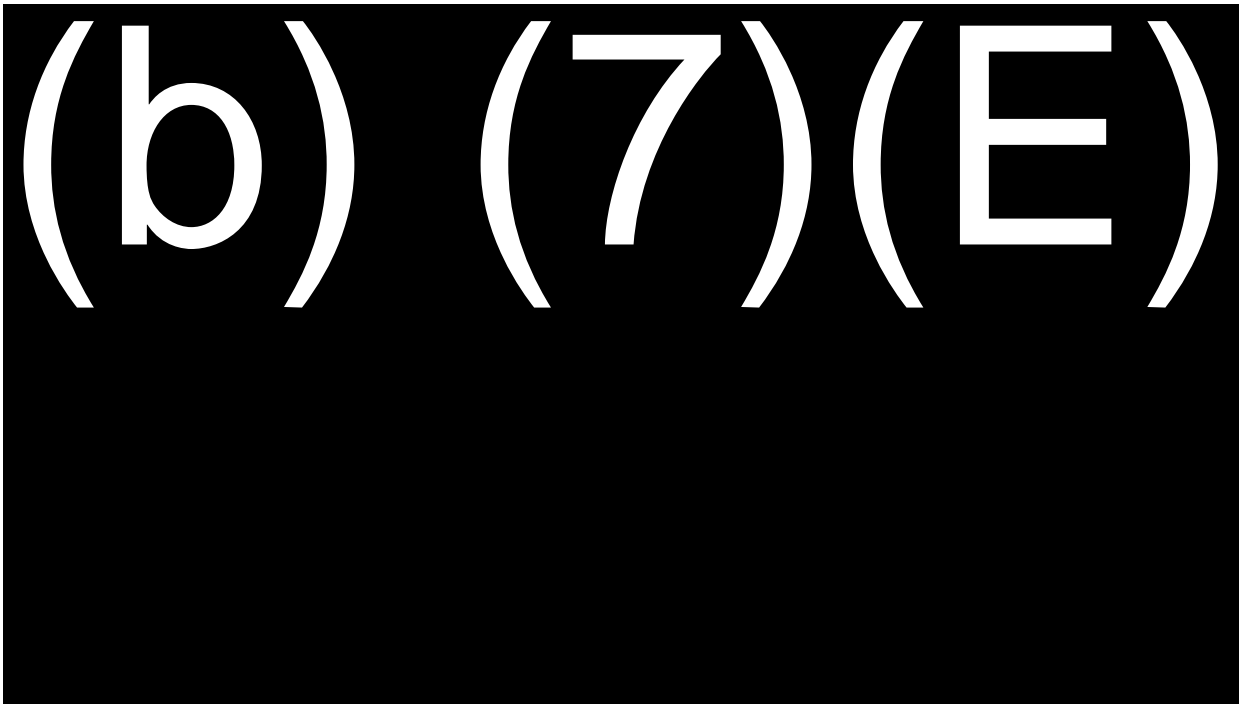
CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION  
VIGILANCE ★ SERVICE ★ INTEGRITY

**UPDATED PROCEDURES**  
**(Best Practices Learned in last 24 Hours)**

**Iranian Supreme Leader Vows Forceful Revenge after US Kills Maj. General Qassim Suleimani in Baghdad – Threat Alert High**

TAU is issuing this high alert to the frontline. Effective immediately, TAU will be operating 24x7 working with TTRT and frontline officers to conduct vetting on all individuals that meet the following criteria:

- All persons (males and females) born after 1961 and born before 2001 with links (POB, travel, Citizenship) any Nexus to the following countries:
  - Palestinians and Lebanese
    - May have traveled to/from Israel and Jordan
  - Iranian and Lebanese Nationals
    - From Middle East, Africa, and Latin America (includes **Iranian/Lebanese** nationals with Nexus to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria, Jordan, Israel)
  - Any other nationality that has traveled to Iran or Lebanon.
- Secondary Procedures – Please fill out CTR form accompanied by this document
- PROCEDURE:



**NOT AUTHORIZED FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

**WARNING:** This document contains information classified FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO) and/or LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE (LES). FOUO/LES information is exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). This document and any attachments are to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be displayed or released to the public, foreign officials or any other personnel who do not have a valid “need-to-know” without prior approval of an authorized DHS official.

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CBP0000033

CBP0000034

CBP0000035

CBP0000036

CBP0000037

**CBP0000038**



CBP0000039

CBP000017



**ALERT**

**CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**  
VIGILANCE ★ SERVICE ★ INTEGRITY

**ALERT**

**HIGH THREAT ALERT**

**Iranian Supreme Leader Vows Forceful Revenge after US Kills Maj. General Qassim Suleimani in Baghdad – Threat Alert High**

TAU is issuing this high alert to the frontline. Effective immediately, TAU will be operating 24x7 working with TIRT and frontline officers to conduct vetting on all individuals that meet the following criteria:

- All persons (males and females) born after 1961 and born before 2001 with links (POB, travel, Citizenship) any Nexus to the following countries:
  - Palestinians and Lebanese
    - May have traveled to/from Israel and Jordan
  - Iranian and Lebanese Nationals
    - From Middle East, Africa, and Latin America
- Questions for Secondary
  - Military Service
    - Where did they serve?
    - When did they serve?
    - If they were allowed an exemption, ask why and what they did instead
    - Did any males in their family serve and if so – list name.
  - Education
    - Schools attended
    - Degree
    - Advisor and who funded schooling/project
  - Occupation
    - Some industries are tied to the government, try to find out as much about their occupation, position, company history, especially if the company was in existence during reconstruction following Iraq-Iran war
- PROCEDURE:

**(b) (7) (E)**

CBP0000019

CBP0000020

CBP000021

CBP000022

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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 1:41 PM  
**To:** THOMAS, ZACHARY C  
**Subject:** FW: Heighten Awareness messaging to officers  
**Attachments:** FW: Heightened Awareness; FW: Awaiting updated guidance; Clarification on TAU Vetting; Clarification of Guidance

#2

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** WILLIAMS, KENNET (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 9:55 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Heighten Awareness messaging to officers

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

As requested. Attached are the emails messaging that I am aware of that went out. I have ask my staff if I have missed any and will send when received.

Can you please provide me a paragraph on what messaging was provided to the officers after the first DFO conference call Friday morning?

- **Face to Face Muster notes:**

- We are in a state of heightened vigilance.
- The Port Directors have been provided a briefing as to the gravity of the aforementioned situation, which is equivalent to a foreign power killing a member of the presidential cabinet
- All encounters with non-immigrants from areas of national concern should be highly scrutinized
- We are assigning officers to man all ports 24X7
- We are working with our law enforcement counterparts to assist in this effort
- Be prepared to initiate outbound operations in the event of a targeted attack on U.S. soil
- (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- Wear body armor
- Wear cover jacket when traveling to and from work
- Report negative contact with individuals posing a threat to CBP personnel or property to the APD through (b) (7)(E).
- Request assistance immediately when dealing with unruly passenger (b) (7)(E)
- (b) (7)(E)
- Increase trunk checks and NII scans



- Conduct routine patrols around the FIS
- Maintain the highest levels of professionalism, impartiality, and courtesy to the traveling public.
- Enforcement Teams
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - JTTF TFO will provide any Intelligence updates upon receipt
  - BEST TFO will assist in port operations
  - [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)
  - [REDACTED]

Was it communicated orally or in written format?

- Orally to the officers and orally, as well as in writing to the managers

What was the messaging to the officers?

- See above

Then, on Sunday at 1245, how was this change communicated (orally or written) and what was messaged?

- This was communicated in Writing and during face to face musters:
- All, The Seattle Field Office has updated the guidance regarding the ongoing [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED].
  1. When inspecting USCs, US LPRs or Canadian Citizens, if primary officer is satisfied that no derogatory information is present, they can admit on primary
  2. [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED]
  3. For this operation, CBP will not target by nationality. The concern is the Iranian government using its Islamic Revolutionary Guard, their military and special forces or Hezbollah operatives using recruits as sympathizers, financiers, or operatives to wage asymmetric warfare or stage an attack in the United States [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E) [REDACTED]. Due to mandatory military conscription in Iran, many persons may have served in the Iranian military.

**Kenneth Williams**  
**Area Port Director**  
**U.S. Customs and Border Protection**  
**9901 Pacific Highway**  
**Blaine, WA 98230**  
**Office:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cellular:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Fax:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 8:21 AM  
**To:** WILLIAMS, KENNET [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Heighten Awareness messaging to officers

APD Williams,

Can you please provide me a paragraph on what messaging was provided to the officers after the first DFO conference call Friday morning?

Was it communicated orally or in written format?

What was the messaging to the officers?

Then, on Sunday at 1245, how was this change communicated (orally or written) and what was messaged?

Sincerely,

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

*Supervisory Program Manager*

*Border Security and Facilitation*

*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*

*Seattle Field Office*

*Office* **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

*Cell* **(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

**(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)**

---

**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 4, 2020 12:38 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
**Cc:** BLAINE-OFO WATCH COMMANDERS; BLAINE-OFO CHIEFS (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[Redacted]  
**Subject:** Clarification on TAU Vetting

All,

**For Immediate Muster:**

**Update & Clarification:**

(b) (7) (E)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Watch Commander  
Passenger/Emergency Management  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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CBP0000350

CBP000351

CBP0000352

CBP0000353



CBP0000354

CBP0000355

**CBP0000356**

CBP0000357

CBP0000358

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**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 2:16 PM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH M  
**Subject:** FW: Blaine POE Questions from Members  
**Attachments:** Heightened Vigilance IP.docx; HIGH THREAT ALERT (b) (7)(E) form for Iran Threat and UPDATED GUIDANCE On BEST PRACTICES in the FIELD

I shared this with Ken

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 10:39 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: Blaine POE Questions from Members

DX (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Please find attached SFO's comprehensive readout and two attachments.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

*Supervisory Program Manager  
Border Security and Facilitation  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Seattle Field Office  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)*

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 7:01 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOFFMAN, TODD (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Forgot to add, we need this well in advance for OFO leadership to review and ask subsequent questions.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 10:00 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CARL S CAMPBELL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); TODD A HOFFMAN  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); RANDY J HOWE  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Mike,

Leadership has a call this afternoon at 5:30 to discuss this. I know there has been a lot of piecemeal responses to inquiries yesterday. We need you to provide a comprehensive read out of what transpired to include a detailed timeline starting after C1s call Friday.

It needs to include guidance given from the Field Office to the ports and then port leadership to the troops, staffing issues (detailed breakdown CBPOS, managers, TTRT for all shifts over the weekend) and why they occurred, engagement by the PD and port management throughout, when did you begin to course correct, how was this accomplished, how the exams were required to be conducted (full TTRT, media exploitation, NTC coordination, FO clearance before release),etc....

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:33 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Mike,

I think we need a complete comprehensive response painting the picture of what had occurred from the beginning to help address all these piecemeal requests. Like we would do for an official congressional correspondence letter. We need to be clear what occurred Otherwise we will continue to have questions come in.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:25:44 PM

**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Fwd: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Can you work on #3 highlighting staffing, increased vigilance, etc.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:19:12 PM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) >

**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)

HOFFMAN, TODD (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Clarification. # 1&2 were addressed by the previous information. We will prepare a response to #3 tomorrow.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

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**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 3:07:16 PM

**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)

**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E)

HOFFMAN, TODD (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** RE: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Good Afternoon,

Please see the additional questions in the attachment under Line 7 that staffers from HSGAC would like to address. Please let me know the responses that I can move forward with.

Thank you in advance,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs | U.S. Customs and Border Protection

1300 Pennsylvania Ave N.W. | Washington, D.C. 20229

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (main line) | [OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:OCAInquiry@cbp.dhs.gov)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HOWE, RANDY (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) FREEMAN, MICHAEL T  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E); HOFFMAN, TODD A  
 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Re: Blaine POE Questions from Members

Thank you!

On Jan 7, 2020, at 12:47 PM (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) > wrote:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch? SFO staffing numbers below.

SFO Onboard	
FY 16	1673 FY 16
FY 17	1625 FY 17
FY 18	1640 FY 18
FY 19	1675 FY 19
FY 20	1705 FY 20

How has the staff level changed over the last five years? See above chart

What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year? See attachment (wait time in minutes)

In regards to the response to CHS, we recommend deferring till after the hill brief later today to see how C1 wishes to address this to ensure consistency.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Deputy Executive Director Operations  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (office)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (cell)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 11:39 AM  
**To:** OFO-FIELD LIAISO (b) (7)(E) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HOWE, RANDY J  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

**Subject:** Blaine POE Questions from Members

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) /OFO,

Attached are the combined follow up questions so far from Hill staff. These are all the follow ups OCA has received so far, but if additional are received we will continue to update this spreadsheet and send, unless they are duplicates. As you are able, please send the responses back to OCA so we can respond to staff.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

<Wait times 2020.xlsx>

<Blaine POE Questions from Members Updated.xlsx>

CBP0000031

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 3:52 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1  
**Attachments:** Blaine Post New Years Weekend Individual Query.xlsx

Good afternoon,

Attached is an example using yesterday's Blaine referral information of all the requested information that is readily available to CBP.

Ethnicity and country of birth would be very difficult to reproduce, as it would require individually querying all the persons sent to secondary.

(b) (7)(E)

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Program Manager  
Border Security and Facilitation  
Seattle Field Office  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 11:50 AM  
**To** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

Here is the complaint.

I am working on a draft which Freeman (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and I will likely expand tomorrow.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Supervisory Program Manager*  
*Border Security and Facilitation*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*Seattle Field Office*  
*Office* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cell* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

---

**From:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 6:09 AM  
**To:** BROWN, LISA BETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

I just received a call from Field Liaison and we have been advised that we will have to compose a draft letter under C-1s signature. Due back to HQ on 1/13...DFO will review letter prior to submission.

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) **On Behalf Of** OFO-FIELD LIAISON  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 5:56 AM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** BROWN, LISA BETH (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); FASANO, ADEL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); OFO-FIELD LIAISON (b) (7)(E) > (b) (6), (b) (7)(C);  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C); CAMPBELL, CARL (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** FW: 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

Good Morning,

FLD received a congressional inquiry surrounding the supposed detention of Iranians last weekend at Blaine. Please do not respond to this inquiry as it will be handled by Headquarters.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Supervisory CBP Officer  
Field Liaison Division  
Office of Field Operations  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 2.3A-17  
Washington, DC 20229  
Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
E-Mail: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



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**From** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 8:49 AM  
**To:** OFO-TASKING [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E); OFO-FIELD LIAISO [REDACTED] (b) (7)(E)  
**Cc** [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 2020-COR-00002732 Iran letter- DHS Tier 1

FLD,

Please see attached DHS Tier 1 and prepare a response as well as a cover memo for C1 signature. Responses are due back to OFO-Tasking NLT 12PM January 13, 2020. Notification is required if you will be unable to meet the deadline, thus placing this DHS Tier 1 on OES' Overdue report to the Commissioner.

Thank you,

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Management and Program Analyst  
Office of Field Operations  
Business Operations and Communications Division  
[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 5:15 PM  
**To:** SFO AP Seattle Leadership; SFO AP Sweetgrass Leadership; SFO AP Pembina Leadership  
**Cc:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Request for information for congressional response

APDs,

In order to respond to a congressional inquiry, please send me the following as soon as possible, but not later than COB January 9:

Any directives, orders, guidance, instructions, musters, whether verbal or in writing, or other documents and communications from any port director to CBP officers regarding the screening of individuals of Iranian heritage or any other changes in screening procedures in response to the death of Qasem Soleimani.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Supervisory Program Manager*  
*Border Security and Facilitation*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*Seattle Field Office*  
*Office* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
*Cell* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

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**From:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020 5:31 PM  
**To:** FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Cc:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Blaine Port of Entry Post New Years Weekend Referral Report  
**Attachments:** Blaine Post New Years Weekend Referral Query.xlsx

Good afternoon,

Attached is a spreadsheet containing the Blaine Port of Entry post new years weekend referral information that is readily available to CBP.

For the four day period 6,877 referrals were captured.

Ethnicity and country of birth would be very difficult if not impossible to reproduce, as it would require individually querying all the persons sent to secondary to see if the ethnicity and country of birth information was recorded in another system.

(b) (7)(E)  
[Redacted text block]

All times are in Eastern Standard Time.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Program Manager  
Border Security and Facilitation  
Seattle Field Office  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Office (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cel (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



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**Sent:** Friday, February 21, 2020 1:41 AM  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) CAMPBELL, CARL S  
**Subject:** FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL iranians  
**Attachments:** Wait times 2020.xlsx

1st one....

1) What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch? We do not provide staffing numbers to specific POEs. I have included the SFO numbers and staffing for the Area Port of Blaine, you guys can decide which to give to OCA.

	SFO Onboard
FY 16	1673
FY 17	1625
FY 18	1640
FY 19	1675
FY 20	1705

2) How has the staff level changed over the last five years? Same as #1

3) What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year? See attachment

Michael Freeman  
Assistant Director, Border Security  
Seattle Field Office  
OFO - U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Blaine, Washington

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 5:54 AM  
To: FREEMAN, MICHAEL T (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: FW: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians  
Importance: High

Hi Mike,

Senator Cantwell's office has some follow up questions from their initial questioning regarding the Blaine POE. I know we don't usually give out port-specific staffing information, so we can probably give them FO info instead. Do you have the answers to these, or would it be better to go through OFO Field Liaison?

- 1) What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch?
- 2) How has the staff level changed over the last five years?
- 3) What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year?

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
Direct Line (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6)  
Sent: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 8:47 AM  
To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Cc: OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians  
Importance: High

Senator Cantwell has the following additional questions.

What is the current staff level at the Blaine Port of Entry - Peace Arch?

How has the staff level changed over the last five years?

What has the average wait time been for each month over the last year?

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Sent: Monday, January 06, 2020 10:57 AM  
To (b) (6)  
Cc: OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: RE: Incoming Correspondence: 01-05-2020 CANTWELL\_iranians

Good morning,

Please see below for an official statement from CBP.

#### STATEMENT

Social media posts that CBP is detaining Iranian-Americans and refusing their entry into the U.S. because of their country of origin are false. Reports that DHS/CBP has issued a related directive are also false.

#### ON BACKGROUND

Based on the current threat environment, CBP is operating with an enhanced posture at its ports of entry to safeguard our national security and protect the America people while simultaneously protecting the civil rights and liberties of everyone. CBP routinely adjusts staffing and operations to maintain the dual missions of border security and facilitation of lawful trade and travel. Processing times are the result of the current circumstances, including staffing levels, volume of traffic, and threat posture.

At the Blaine POE, wait times increased to an average of two hours on Saturday evening, although some travelers experienced wait times of up to four hours due to increased volume and reduced staff during the holiday season. Wait times Sunday morning were about 40 minutes for passenger vehicles.

CBP does not discriminate based on religion, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office of Congressional Affairs  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

-----Original Message-----

From (b) (6) >  
Sent: Sunday, January 5, 2020 7:21 PM  
To: OCAINQUIRY <OCAINQUIRY@cbp.dhs.gov>  
Subject: Re: Iranian detentions in WA state

The Senator would also like a briefing on this matter. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 5, 2020, at 2:52 PM (b) (6) wrote:  
>  
> Senator Cantwell has heard reports of mass detention of people of Iranian descent at the Northern Border in Washington state. Could you please let us know, what happened, how this situation is being handled and how individuals' rights are being respected?  
>  
> Thank you (b) (6)  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone